DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 474 488 PS 031 078

AUTHOR	Friendly, Martha; Beach, Jane; Turiano, Michelle
TITLE	Early Childhood Education and Care in Canada, 2001. Fifth Edition.
INSTITUTION	Toronto Univ. (Ontario). Childcare Resource and Research Unit.
ISBN	ISBN-1-896051-24-3
PUB DATE	2002-12-00
NOTE	218p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Childcare Resource and Research Unit, Centre for Urban and Community Studies, University of Toronto, 455 Spadina Avenue, Ste. 305, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G8, Canada. Tel: 416-978-6895; Fax: 416-971-2139; e-mail: crru@chass.utoronto.ca; Web site: http://www.childcarecanada.org. For full text: http://www.childcarecanada.org/ ECECC2001.
PUB TYPE	Numerical/Quantitative Data (110) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	EDRS Price MF01/PC09 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Child Care; Foreign Countries; Government Role; Kindergarten; Legislation; *Preschool Education; Program Descriptions; Public Policy; Standards; State Government; Tables (Data)
IDENTIFIERS	Availability (Programs and Services); *Canada; Day Care Availability; Day Care Regulations

ABSTRACT

Noting that in Canada, regulated child care and most other early childhood services are under provincial jurisdiction, this report is the fifth to provide statistical and other information on early childhood care and education services for each province and territory in Canada. Data were assembled from a variety of sources, including questionnaires sent to each provincial/territorial child care office or to officials responsible for kindergarten, telephone interviews with officials, and follow-up interviews to ensure information accuracy, supplemented by written and website information. The introductory section of the report provides information on data sources, gives an overview of the state of early childhood education and care (ECEC), and describes federal ECEC programs and federal aboriginal ECEC programs. The second section, the bulk of the report, contains the following information for each province and territory: (1) demographic and family leave information; (2) legislation and policies regarding kindergarten services, including children with special needs, teacher qualifications, curriculum, and spending; (3) legislation and policies regarding regulated child care services, including the official responsible for child care, child care services available, policies regarding children with special needs, aboriginal child care programs, statistics on child care spaces, standards and regulations, funding, the municipal or local government role, and child care planning and development; (4) other ECEC services, including family resources programs; (5) history of child care in the province/territory and recent developments; and (6) key provincial child care organizations. The remaining two sections contain tables detailing national and provincial/territory statistics for the most recent period and trend data. (KB)

Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made
from the original document.

ED 474 488

Early Childhood Education and Care in Canada 2001

MARTHA FRIENDLY • JANE BEACH • MICHELLE TURIANO

CHILDCARE RESOURCE AND RESEARCH UNIT

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

WWW.CHILDCARECANADA.ORG

DECEMBER 2002

PS031078

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

X This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Martha Friendly

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

Martha Friendly, Jane Beach and Michelle Turiano
December 2002
Early childhood education and care in Canada 2001.
Martha Friendly, Jane Beach and Michelle Turiano
Childcare Resource and Research Unit
Centre for Urban and Community Studies
December 2002, xxiv, 180 pp.
ISBN 1-896051-24-3

Childcare Resource and Research Unit
Centre for Urban and Community Studies
University of Toronto
455 Spadina Avenue, Ste. 305
Toronto ON M5S 2G8, Canada
Tel: 416-978-6895
Fax: 416-971-2139
E-mail: crru@chass.utoronto.ca
Website: www.childcarecanada.org

Cover design: Sonya V. Thursby; Opus House Incorporated
Interior design/layout: J. Lynn Campbell; Opus House Incorporated

National Library of Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Friendly, Martha
Early childhood education and care in Canada: 2001/Martha Friendly, Jane Beach, Michelle Turiano. 5th ed.

First eds. published under title: Child care in Canada; 4th ed. published under title: Early childhood care and education in Canada. Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 1-896051-24-3

1. Early childhood education—Government policy—Canada. 2. Child care services—Government policy—Canada. I. Beach, Jane II. Turiano, Michelle, 1972- III. University of Toronto. Childcare Resource and Research Unit IV. Title. V. Title: Early childhood care and education in Canada.

HQ778.7.C3C44 2003 372.21'0971 C2003-900423-6

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS VI

PREFACE VII

EXPLANATORY NOTES IX

THE STATE OF ECEC IN CANADA: AN OVERVIEW XIII

FEDERAL ECEC PROGRAMS XIX

TABLE 1 ECEC AND RELATED PROGRAMS UNDER FEDERAL AEGIS

ABORIGINAL ECEC XXI

TABLE 2 FEDERAL ABORIGINAL ECEC PROGRAMS

PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR 1

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND 9

NOVA SCOTIA 17

NEW BRUNSWICK 25

QUÉBEC 33

ONTARIO 45

MANITOBA 57

SASKATCHEWAN 67

ALBERTA 77

BRITISH COLUMBIA 85

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES 97

NUNAVUT 105

YUKON TERRITORY 113

THE BIG PICTURE

TABLE 3 VARIETIES OF ECEC SERVICES IN ALL JURISDICTIONS, CANADA – 2001 121

TABLE 4 NUMBER OF CHILDREN 0-12 YEARS BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 122

TABLE 5 CHILDREN 0-12 YEARS WITH MOTHERS IN THE PAID LABOUR FORCE BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 126

TABLE 6 WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION OF MOTHERS BY AGE OF YOUNGEST CHILD – 2001 127

TABLE 7 FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 128

TABLE 8 SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 130

TABLE 9 REGULATED CHILD CARE SPACES BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 132

TABLE 10 SPONSORSHIP OF REGULATED CENTRE-BASED PROGRAMS BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 133

TABLE 11 ON-RESERVE CHILD CARE CENTRES BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 134

TABLE 12 TOTAL PROVINCIAL ALLOCATION AND ALLOCATION FOR EACH REGULATED CHILD CARE SPACE BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 135

TABLE 13 TOTAL PROVINCIAL ALLOCATION AND ALLOCATION TO REGULATED CHILD CARE FOR EACH CHILD 0-12 YEARS IN THE PROVINCE – 2001 136

TABLE 14 EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE FUNDS SPENT ON REGULATED CHILD CARE BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 137

TABLE 15 NATIONAL CHILD BENEFIT REINVESTMENT STRATEGY FUNDS SPENT ON REGULATED CHILD CARE BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2000-2001 138

TABLE 16 NET INCOME ELIGIBILITY LEVELS FOR FULL AND PARTIAL CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDIES BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 139

TABLE 17 NUMBER AND PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN REGULATED CHILD CARE RECEIVING SUBSIDIES BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 140

TABLE 18 MEDIAN MONTHLY PARENT FEES FOR FULL-TIME CENTRE-BASED CHILD CARE – 1998 141

TABLE 19 MINIMUM TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR CENTRE-BASED STAFF BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 142

TABLE 20 YEARS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION TRAINING OF CENTRE-BASED STAFF – 1998 144

TABLE 21 MEAN GROSS HOURLY WAGE FOR CENTRE-BASED CHILD CARE STAFF BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 1998 145

TABLE 22 MAXIMUM STAFF:CHILD RATIOS IN FULL-DAY CENTRE-BASED CHILD CARE BY AGE AND PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 146

TABLE 23 MAXIMUM GROUP SIZES IN FULL-DAY CENTRE-BASED CHILD CARE BY AGE AND PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 147

TABLE 24 REQUIREMENTS FOR REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 148

TABLE 25 PROCESS QUALITY RATINGS: MEAN ECERS-R (1998), ITERS (1998) AND FDCRS (1999) SCORES BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY 149

TABLE 26 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CHILDREN PERMITTED IN UNREGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 2001 150

THE LONG VIEW

TABLE 27 NUMBER OF CHILDREN 0-12 YEARS BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 153

TABLE 28 NUMBER OF CHILDREN 0-12 YEARS WITH MOTHERS IN THE PAID LABOUR FORCE BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 154

TABLE 29 REGULATED CHILD CARE SPACES BY PROVINCES/TERRITORY – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 155

TABLE 30 PERCENT OF CHILDREN 0-12 YEARS FOR WHOM THERE IS A REGULATED CHILD CARE SPACES BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 156

TABLE 31 PERCENT OF REGULATED CENTRE-BASED SPACES THAT ARE NOT-FOR-PROFIT BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 157

TABLE 32 ALLOCATIONS IN ACTUAL AND CONSTANT 2001 DOLLARS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 158

TABLE 33A ALLOCATION IN ACTUAL $ FOR EACH REGULATED CHILD CARE SPACE BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 159

TABLE 33B ALLOCATION IN ACTUAL AND CONSTANT 2001 DOLLARS FOR EACH REGULATED CHILD CARE SPACE, CANADA – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 159

TABLE 34A ALLOCATION IN ACTUAL DOLLARS ON REGULATED CHILD CARE FOR EACH CHILD IN THE PROVINCE AGED 0-12 YEARS BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY 160

TABLE 34B ALLOCATION IN ACTUAL AND CONSTANT 2001 DOLLARS FOR EACH CHILD IN THE PROVINCE, CANADA – 1992,1995,1998, 2001 160

TABLE 35 NUMBER AND PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN REGULATED CHILD CARE RECEIVING SUBSIDIES BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 161

TABLE 36 NET INCOME ELIGIBILITY LEVELS FOR FULL CHILD CARE SUBSIDY FOR ONE PARENT, ONE CHILD FAMILY BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 162

TABLE 37 MEAN GROSS HOURLY WAGE (IN ACTUAL $) FOR CENTRE-BASED CHILD CARE STAFF – 1991, 1998 163

Government ECEC websites 165

Further readings 167

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Collecting and organizing the material that makes up each edition of Early Childhood Education and Care in Canada is a huge task. This fifth version, 2002, was a collective effort that relied on the skills, talents, perseverance and dedication of a number of people. Jane Beach coordinated the collection and refinement of data including administrative data from each jurisdiction and was assisted in this by Donna Michal. Jocelyne Tougas collected information and provided language support in Québec. At the Childcare Resource and Research Unit, Michelle Turiano shared in all stages of the effort, organizing and refining the data and checking data and figures. Ryerson Early Childhood Education students Carolyn Ferns and Suchi Garg provided immense help in summarizing data and creating its representation in tables. Jennifer Cho provided research assistance and support. And Richard Shillington provided assistance in assembling demographic data and national statistics.

Federal and provincial/territorial child care and education officials could not have been more generous in contributing their time and expertise as were the child care community members with whom we met across the country — as always, we are most grateful for their efforts. Finally, we would like to express appreciation to Human Resources Development Canada for funds for this project and for its support for the Childcare Resource and Research Unit.

Martha Friendly

PREFACE

This is the fifth synthesis of Canada-wide child care information that the Childcare Resource and Research Unit has produced since the late 1980s. The first versions were called *Child Care in Canada: Provinces and Territories*. Then – in recognition of the prevailing view that, as Carol Bellamy, the Executive Director of UNICEF observed "*There is a growing consensus that child care and early education are inseparable*" — the last (1998) version's title was modified to include early childhood education. The content, however, was still mostly (although no longer entirely) about child care. In this version, we have added a new major section that presents a range of information about publicly funded kindergarten in all provinces and territories.

Between the publication of the 1998 version and completion of this 2001 version, while public policy has not yet begin to shift, Canadian understanding of an integrated concept of care and education has begun to mature. A major contribution to our knowledge of child care and early childhood education has been made by an international study, a Thematic Review of Early Childhood Education and Care, conducted by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). This policy study uses the term "early childhood education and care" to

> reflect the growing consensus in OECD countries that "care" and "education" are inseparable concepts...the use of the term ECEC supports an integrated and coherent approach to policy and provision, which is inclusive of all children and all parents regardless of employment or socioeconomic status. This approach recognizes that such arrangements may fulfill a wide range of objectives including care, learning and social support (OECD, 2001: 14).

Detailed reviews of ECEC in the 12 participating countries led to the study's conclusion that eight interrelated aspects of policy and program are the "key elements...that are likely to promote equitable access to quality ECEC" (OECD, 2001:125). The eight "policy lessons" following are a useful tool for readers of this document to keep in mind:

- **Policy lesson 1. A systematic and integrated approach to policy development and implementation**. The Thematic Review emphasized the importance of a clear vision of children as a social group to underpin ECEC policy. A systematic and integrated approach requires a coordinated policy framework and a lead ministry that works in co-operation with other departments and sectors.
- **Policy lesson 2. A strong and equal partnership with the education system** suggests that the nation supports a lifelong learning approach from birth to encourage smooth transitions for children and recognize ECEC as a foundation of the education process.
- **Policy lesson 3. A universal approach to access, with particular attention to children in need of special support** is linked to equitable access so all children can have the equal and fair opportunities provided by high quality ECEC regardless of family income, parental employment status, special educational needs or ethnic/language background.
- **Policy lesson 4. Substantial public investment in services and the infrastructure**. The Thematic Review found that while a combination of sources may fund ECEC, substantial government investment is required to support a sustainable system of quality, accessible services.
- **Policy lesson 5. A participatory approach to quality improvement and assurance** begins with the premise that all forms of ECEC should be regulated and monitored. Defining, ensuring and monitoring quality should be a participatory and democratic process. Pedagogical frameworks focusing on children's holistic development and strategies for ongoing quality improvement are key parts of this element.
- **Policy lesson 6. Appropriate training and working conditions for staff in all forms of provision** is a foundation for quality ECEC services, which depend on strong staffing and fair working conditions. Strategies for recruiting and retaining a qualified, diverse, mixed-gender workforce and for ensuring that a career in ECEC is satisfying, respected and financially viable are essential.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

- **Policy lesson 7. Systematic attention to monitoring and data collection** with coherent procedures for collecting and analyzing data on the status of young children, ECEC provision, and the early childhood workforce are required.
- **Policy lesson 8. A stable framework and long-term agenda for research and evaluation** requires sustained investment to support research on key policy goals and is a necessary part of a process of continuous improvement.

Finally, it is important to note that a recurring theme in the successive Child Care in Canada documents has been concern about the frailty of much of the data that is available. While there continues to be too little reliable, recurrently collected cross-Canada data about regulated child care, kindergarten, or related early childhood services, it is reassuring to note that two of the OECD's policy lessons (7 and 8) are concerned with the value and importance of evaluation, research and data as a tool for making improvements.

Martha Friendly

December 2002

References

Organization for Economic and Co-operative Development. (2001). Starting strong: Early childhood education and care. Summary report, Thematic Review of Early Child-hood Education and Care. Paris: Author.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of the data provided in this publication and to use accurate and consistent terminology and categories across provinces/territories whenever possible. This was not always possible, however, due to the use of different terminologies, categories and data collection methods. In some cases, information which is consistent by date or definition were not available; where this occurs, dates and definitions are provided or noted in the text or in footnotes.

METHOD

The data were assembled from a variety of sources including Canada-wide data sources (identified below), federal/ provincial/territorial government officials and from community and other resources.

Information on federal ECEC programs was assembled using written and online sources. These were enhanced and clarified through telephone interviews with federal officials.

The method used to collect data on regulated child care from each province/territory followed a series of steps. First, a written questionnaire was sent to each provincial/territorial child care office. P/T officials then assembled their data; this was followed by a visit to each jurisdiction where meetings were held with the range of officials who had relevant information. Additional meetings with community representatives were then held. Using a combination of material provided by government officials, community groups, written and web site material, a draft of the material was then compiled. Each jurisdiction assisted further by providing clarification and updates. Further follow-up was done throughout the editing stage to ensure the information's accuracy.

Kindergarten information was assembled by identifying and contacting the official (or officials) in each jurisdiction with responsibility for kindergarten and, through telephone interviews, collecting information using a short questionnaire developed for this purpose. These data were supplemented by written and website information; sources are noted in the text where they were used. Community representatives were not involved in supplementing this information.

It should be noted that timely information that is consistent across Canada is often not available.

DATA SOURCES

Number of children 0-12 years.
Special tabulation based on the Labour Force Survey. Conducted by Statistics Canada.

Children 0-12 years with mothers in the paid labour force.
Special tabulation based on the Labour Force Survey. Conducted by Statistics Canada.

Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group.
Statistics Canada. 1996 Census of Canada. *Aboriginal data*. Dimensions Series; Catalogue No. 94F0011XCB, Ottawa, ON.

For the 1996 Census, either a long or a short version of a standard questionnaire was distributed to all households across Canada. The long questionnaire included a question about the respondent's ethnic origins and another which asked if the respondent was registered under the Indian Act of Canada. The long questionnaire was distributed to all households on reserves and settlements and to approximately 20% of the remaining households in Canada. It should be noted that data comparable to these from the 2001 census are expected to become available in the spring of 2003.

Children 0-14 years with disabilities (2001)
Statistics Canada. (2002, December). *A profile of disability in Canada*, 2001: Participation and activity limitation survey. Catalogue no. 89-579-XIE

The Participation and Activity Limitation Survey uses the World Health Organization's (WHO) framework of disability provided by the International Classification of Functioning (ICF). This framework defines disability as the relationship between body structures and functions, daily activities and social participation, while recognizing the role of environmental factors.

For the purpose of PALS, persons with disabilities are those who reported difficulties with daily living activities, or who indicated that a physical, mental condition or health problem reduced the kind or amount of activities they could do. The respondents' answers to the disability questions represent their perception of the situation and are therefore subjective.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child
Statistics Canada. *Labour force historical review*. Statistics Canada #71F0004XCB

These figures include employed and unemployed women by age of child. These two categories are considered to be in the labour force. These figures do not include women who are not in the paid labour force (e.g. students or individuals enrolled in a training program, or other guardians responsible for children).

Family-related leave
Length of maternity, parental and adoption leave in Employment Standards Legislation (unpaid).

Table from Labour Law Analysis, Strategic Policy and International Labour Affairs, Labour Program. Human Resources Development Canada (February 18, 2002). Available online at:

http://labour.hrdc- drhc.gc.ca/psait_spila/lmnec_eslc/parental_leave.htm.

Work-life balance in Canada: A report to Ministers responsible for labour in Canada, Chapter II. (March 2001, updated February 2002). The legislative framework. Available online at:

http://labour-travail.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/worklife/wlbc-ctvpc/c2.cfm#1B.

Number of births
Statistics Canada. *The Daily*. September 26, 2002

Maternity leave claims
Employment Insurance 2000 assessment and monitoring reports. Canadian Employment Insurance Commission. Human Resources Development Canada. Table 2.9, 2.10, 2.11.

Spending for EI maternity and parental leave benefits (2001)
EI Benefits, Statistics Canada. CANSIMIL, Table 276-0005

Federal ECEC programs
Federal/Provincial/Territorial Early Childhood Development Agreement : Report on Government of Canada activities and expenditures. (2000-2001). Health Canada, Human Resources Development Canada, and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Available on-line at: http://socialunion.gc.ca/ecd/intro_e.html and as reported by officials.

Average wages in regulated child care 1998
Doherty, G., Lero, D., Goelman, H., LaGrange, A., & Tougas, J. (2000). *You bet I care! A Canada-wide study on: Wages, working conditions, and practices in child care centres*. Guelph, ON: Centre for Families, Work and Well-being, University of Guelph.

Fees in regulated child care 1998

Doherty, G., Lero, D., Goelman, H., LaGrange, A., & Tougas, J. (2000). *You bet I care! A Canada-wide study on: Wages, working conditions, and practices in child care centres.* Guelph, ON: Centre for Families, Work and Well-being, University of Guelph.

Quality: Average scores on the ECERS-R, ITERS and FDCRS in six provinces and one territory

Goelman, H., Doherty, G., Lero, D., LaGrange, A., & Tougas, J. (2000). *You bet I care!: Caring and learning environments. Quality in child care centres across Canada.* Guelph, ON: Centre for Families, Work and Well-being, University of Guelph.

Doherty, G., Lero, D., Goelman, H., Tougas, J. & LaGrange, A. (2000). *You bet I care! Caring and learning environments: Quality in regulated family child care across Canada.* Guelph, ON: Centre for Families, Work and Well-being, University of Guelph.

Provincial allocation for regulated child care in Ontario

Preliminary options regarding redirection of child care funding. Draft. (2001). Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services.

Aboriginal ECEC programs

Federal/Provincial/Territorial Early Childhood Development Agreement : Report on Government of Canada activities and expenditures. (2000 - 2001). Health Canada, Human Resources Development Canada, and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Available on-line at http://socialunion.gc.ca/ecd/intro_e.html and as reported by officials.

Varieties of ECEC programs under federal and provincial/territorial jurisdiction

Federal/Provincial/Territorial Early Childhood Development Agreement : Report on Government of Canada activities and expenditures. (2000-2001). Health Canada, Human Resources Development Canada, and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Available on-line at http://socialunion.gc.ca/ecd/intro_e.html and as reported by officials.

Use of the National Child Benefit for regulated child care by province/territory 2001

The National Child Benefit 2001 progress report. (2001). Available on-line at: http://www.nationalchildbenefit.ca/home_ e.html.

Use of Early Childhood Development Initiative funds for regulated child care by province/territory 2001

Information as reported by provincial/territorial officials.

THE STATE OF ECEC IN CANADA: AN OVERVIEW

Each of Canada's 14 jurisdictions — 10 provinces, three territories and the federal government – has its own approach to early childhood education and care. Each has a number of programs for "care", "education" and for meeting other objectives such as ameliorating the effects of poverty and supporting parents. Overall, Canada does not have a national strategy for early childhood education and care (ECEC).

Each of the provinces and territories has a provincial program of regulated child care that usually encompasses nursery or preschool, centre-based full-day child care, regulated family child care and school-age child care. The provincial child care programs provide legislated requirements for operation of services and a variety of funding arrangements, usually under a social or community services ministry. Provincial/territorial governments also have responsibility for public kindergartens that are usually part-day for five year olds under ministries of education. Generally, kindergarten programs for five year olds (or fours in Ontario and, to a more limited extent, elsewhere) are a public responsibility while "care" and early childhood education for children younger than age five is assumed to be a private, family responsibility. In addition to these provincial/territorial programs, there are a variety of care and education programs – for example, Aboriginal Head Start and the First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative — under the aegis of the federal government.

These programs — regulated child care and kindergarten — supplemented by family resource programs that are primarily intended to support parents, an assortment of cash payments to parents to pay for care, and maternity and parental leave, constitute ECEC in Canada.

In 2002, most children with working parents (more than 70% of children aged 3-5 years have mothers in the paid labour force) are cared for in unregulated child care while parents work, train or study. These arrangements are sometimes provided by a relative, by an unregulated family child care provider or in-home caregiver. Organized ECEC services across Canada are in short supply or — like public kindergarten — are not labour force sensitive. Some — like regulated child care — are too costly for ordinary families or not always sufficiently high quality to be "developmental". Many young school-aged children are alone after school or attend recreation or other community programs that are not intended to provide "care".

The range and of early childhood education and care services and access to them vary enormously by region and circumstances. However, no region of Canada yet provides a system of well-designed and funded early childhood education and care services to meet the needs of a majority of families and children.

HISTORY OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE

The history of early childhood education and care in Canada begins in the mid-19th century. Kindergartens were preceded by infant schools that developed in the first half of the 1800s in several provinces to offer care and instruction to poor children. The first private kindergartens — initially motivated by the idea that children benefit from formal education and then influenced by contemporary thinking about the importance of education in early childhood — began to appear and, in cities and larger towns, were commonplace by the end of the 1870s.

The kindergarten movement soon moved beyond its first middle and upper class clientele as private kindergartens spread across Canada. These included "free kindergartens", run by missionary and charitable groups, that began to be used as a tool for social reform and as a way of assimilating immigrant children (Prochner, 2000). Following right on the heels of the first public kindergarten in the United States, the first Canadian public kindergarten opened in the Toronto Board of Education in 1883. Influenced by the work of European educational specialists like Pestalozzi and Froebel, the Ontario kindergartens were recognized officially in 1885 and were funded by the province two years later (Corbett, 1989). Intended for three-to-five year olds and full day, by 1900 there were kindergartens in towns and villages across Ontario (Mathien, 2000).

Some of the early kindergartens were used, in part, as "care" programs. As Toronto's public school kindergartens were becoming more widespread, some were opened to look after children while their mothers were employed. Even before this, however, there were some "care" programs in Montreal, Toronto and, by 1920, in Halifax, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Vancouver and other cities; some of these accommodated infants. Throughout this period, these early childhood services were developed and run by charitable, mostly women's, groups.

While there was organized child care in a number of Canada's provinces early in the 1900s, there was little government involvement until World War II. A 1942 Order-in-Council established the Dominion-Provincial-War-time Agreement, the first — and still most direct — federal intervention into organized child care. It offered 50 % cost sharing to assist provinces to provide child care for children whose mothers were working in essential war industries. Only Ontario and Québec participated in this agreement. After the war, the federal government withdrew its support and all six of the Québec child care centres, and many of Ontario's, closed.

Since World War II, the federal government's role in child care has mostly been indirect and limited. Nevertheless, its second foray into the area in 1966 had an important impact on the way child care has developed since that time. The Canada Assistance Plan (CAP) was introduced in 1966 to ameliorate or prevent poverty. Through the provisions of CAP, the Government of Canada entered into cost sharing agreements with the provinces for welfare services, including child care. For the purpose of 50-50 cost sharing, CAP treated child care like other welfare services and established federal conditions for cost sharing. These conditions stipulated that federal funds were available to pay only for services for needy, or potentially needy, families, and that to be eligible for funding as a welfare service, child care had to be regulated and public or not-for-profit. The design of CAP meant that federal funds were used almost exclusively for fee subsidies for families who were income- or means-tested to determine eligibility.

As social services are a provincial responsibility in Canada, the provinces were not compelled to participate. However, although it took a decade for them all to begin to use CAP's child care provisions eventually, all the provinces cost shared their eligible child care costs through CAP. CAP thus began to spur the development of child care services throughout Canada and to shape their evolution throughout the 1970s and 1980s. The residual approach to funding meant that regulated child care emerged as a welfare rather than a universal or educational service.

But as mothers with young children entered the paid labour force in growing numbers, middle class families also began to use child care centres that usually served both subsidized and fee paying families. Although there were always difficulties with the limited funding arrangements, the supply of regulated child care services grew dramatically throughout Canada as most of the provinces developed and refined service delivery, regulation and funding in the 1970s and 1980s. In 1971, parental out-of-pocket child care expenses were allowed as a tax deduction under The Income Tax Act and maternity benefits for eligible new mothers were included under The Unemployment Insurance Act. The provinces — beginning with Québec in 1979 — began to provide funds to child care centres to offset their operating costs or to improve wages. Community demand for a national child care program — supported by the growing feminist movement — swelled throughout the 1980s.

At the same time — separated conceptually, administratively and programmatically from "care", public kindergarten was established in almost every province and territory, becoming an entitlement in most jurisdictions. By the mid-1980s, most Canadian five year olds (and in Ontario, four year olds) were enrolled in public, mostly half-day, kindergarten programs.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE IN THE 1990s

Between 1984 and 1995, there were three significant attempts to develop a national approach to child care as successive federal governments announced that a national strategy for child care would be developed. Each of these — the Task Force on Child Care set up by the Trudeau government (1984), the Special Committee on Child Care of the Mulroney government (1986), and the initiative based on Jean Chrétien's 1993 Red Book election commitment — was started by a federal government. Each recognized that social/educational services such as child care are areas of provincial jurisdiction. However, none of these

efforts was successful in producing a pan-Canadian strategy or approach to early childhood education and care.

In the mid-1990s, Canada's political arrangements (which had historically featured tensions between federal and provincial roles) tilted toward provincial domination. This shift very much impacted on the future of early childhood education and care. During this period, the Canada Assistance Plan was abolished (1996) and all federal dollars for provincial health, education and welfare programs were subsumed into a block fund, the Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST). Social policy experts feared that, without conditions like those that had been part of the CAP agreement, provincial spending of the substantially reduced federal dollars in the CHST would become less accountable to either the federal government or the public.

A debate about what was termed "social policy renewal" arose in a climate of anxiety about Québec separation and the fiscal deficit. This was formalized in February 1999 as the federal government and the nine provinces comprising "the rest of Canada" outside Québec signed the Social Union Framework Agreement1 (SUFA) (see below).

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ECEC

Federal role

That Canada is governed by a federal system is key in how responsibilities for ECEC are defined. The division of powers between federal and provincial governments was originally defined in the Constitution Act of 1867 and has evolved over the years. While (as the previous section describes) the federal government had at one time shared the cost of fee subsidies with the provinces, and successive federal governments in the 1980s and 1990s contemplated a national child care strategy, in 2002 the federal government's role in ECEC consists of several intergovernmental funding schemes that are not specific to ECEC (the Early Childhood Development Initiative, the National Child Benefit Reinvestment Strategy and the Canada Health and Social Transfer) and a number of ECEC programs that are targeted to particular populations and circumstances. These are described in Table 1 and Table 2.

There is no federal role in public education, including kindergarten. The federal government does not pay for education nor is there a national department of education.

Intergovernmental arrangements: SUFA, the National Children's Agenda and the Early Childhood Development Initiative

The Social Union Framework Agreement or A Framework to Improve the Social Union for Canadians (1999) is the most important current intergovernmental (federal/ provincial) arrangement for ECEC. SUFA sets out how federal or joint social programs will be constructed or modified. Beginning with a series of principles including that of "ensuring access for all Canadians wherever they live or move in Canada, to essential social programs and services of reasonably comparable quality", SUFA commits both levels of government to working in collaboration and to enhancing transparency and accountability. The federal government agrees not to introduce new social programs in areas of provincial jurisdiction without agreement of a majority of provinces and retains its spending powers. SUFA committed the governments to a full public review of the Agreement and its implementation "by the end of the third year", or February 4, 2002.

The National Children's Agenda (NCA) has been SUFA's primary activity. Consisting of a broad "vision" statement, the NCA was, in turn, signed by the nine provinces and the federal government in May 1999. A third federal/provincial agreement, also nested under SUFA, the Early Childhood Development Agreement (ECDI), emerged in September 2000 at the annual First Ministers' meeting2. This initiative transferred federal dollars to the provinces for "early learning and care" as one of four program areas from which provinces may choose (See Table 14 for provincial/territorial spending under the ECDI).

In the October 2002 Throne Speech, the federal government made a commitment to "work with its partners to increase access to early learning opportunities and to quality child care, particularly for poor and lone-parent families".

Provincial/territorial jurisdiction

With few exceptions, Canadian ECEC services — child care, nursery schools, kindergarten — like health, social services, and elementary, secondary and post-secondary education, are under the jurisdiction of provinces and territories. Each of Canada's 10 provinces and three territories has developed a program of regulated child care and a program for public kindergartens. (These are summarized in more detail in the Service Overview section below).

Local governments, the community, parent-users and advocates

Canadian municipalities do not have powers assigned by constitutional arrangements but are rather subordinate to the provinces who delegate powers — including taxing powers — to them. Outside Ontario — where they play several important roles in child care (funding, operation of services (about 10% of regulated child care services) and some policy-setting) — municipal/regional governments generally do not have a role in regulated child care although Vancouver plays a key role as well.

Local school boards (or school divisions) — also subordinate to provincial governments — usually have primary responsibility for the operation of elementary schools including kindergarten.

"The community" and parent-users are also an important part of Canadian ECEC. At the service delivery level, the bulk of the supply of regulated child care is initiated and maintained by parent and/or voluntary boards of directors; these child care programs comprise most of the not-for-profit child care sector that represents more than 80% of the total supply. Otherwise parents generally have little specific role in regulated child care, although the bulk of child care services are paid for by parent fees (a 1998 national study found that an average of 49.2% of revenue for full-day child care centres came from parent fees (Doherty, Lero, Goelman, LaGrange and Tougas, 2000).

In most parts of Canada, advocacy, professional and service groups and, to some extent, organized parent groups where they exist, make up what is often called "the child care community". These groups are important providers of services like professional development and in-service training.

Advocacy for more and better child care — and now ECEC — has been a visible feature of the Canadian ECEC landscape for decades. Alliances with other groups with an interest in ECEC — for example, the labour movement, anti-poverty activists and feminists — have long been a fundamental element of Canadian advocacy for child care.

SERVICE OVERVIEW

Most of Canada's ECEC programs are under provincial jurisdiction. Generally, regulated child care includes centres, usually nursery schools (except in Québec, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick and the Yukon) or preschools (part-day centre-based programs) and regulated family child care under the same legislation. Overall, spaces in regulated child care services are available for almost 600,000 of Canada's almost 5,000,000 children aged 0-12, with substantial regional and age-related variations in availability.

Almost all jurisdictions now require at least some of the staff working in child care with children to have some training in early childhood education; however, Canadian requirements for early childhood training are generally acknowledged to be less than adequate (see Table 19 for a summary of ECE training requirements in regulated child care). Concerns about the quality of Canadian child care services were reinforced in the late 1990s with the publication of You Bet I Care!, a Canada-wide study of staffing and quality in child care centres (Goelman, Doherty, Lero, LaGrange and Tougas, 2000) and regulated family child care (Doherty, Lero, Goelman, Tougas, and LaGrange, 2000).

All jurisdictions subsidize some or all costs in regulated child care for low-income parents. However, in most cases, limitations on the number of these subsidies exclude many eligible parents; in other cases, the subsidy provided does not cover the whole fee. Some provinces also provide funds to support the overall operation of child care services; this may be in the form of wage grants to raise staff wages. Overall, though, except in Québec, child care is primarily a fee-paying service in Canada, with many families not able to access services due to costs. Only Québec has set out a goal of universal child care, designated substantial public funding and designed a multiyear plan to move towards it.

All of the provinces and territories also provide public kindergarten. In almost all cases (except Prince Edward Island) kindergarten is part of the public education system and in most jurisdictions it is an entitlement. All provinces/territories provide kindergarten for five year olds; in Ontario, most school boards offer universal four year old kindergarten too. Most kindergarten is part-day or part-time (in Québec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, full-day kindergarten is the norm). Attendance at kindergarten is compulsory in a number of jurisdictions (New Brunswick, BC, Nova Scotia and the territories); however, almost all eligible children in all jurisdictions attend public kindergarten when this is offered. Three provinces and the territories maintain more than one publicly funded school system (public and Catholic). All offer kindergarten in both official languages where population warrants. Nunavut, the newest jurisdiction, provides kindergarten in Inuktitut.

Generally, there is little connection between kindergarten programs and regulated child care services at either the policy or service delivery level. In some provinces, Ontario, for example, there are many child care centres located in schools. Except in Québec, where school-aged child care is under the aegis of the Ministère de l'Education, child care services are usually not the responsibility of the education system but are operated by community boards of directors, other institutions or organizations (such as the YMCA) or by for-profit operators. School-based child care often serves school-aged children but other age groups including infants and toddlers may be served in school locations also.

Provincial/territorial ECEC programs are covered in more detail in the individual section for each jurisdiction, and in the Big Picture and Long View tables. ECEC services for Aboriginal communities and those under federal aegis are described in the sections that follow.

Notes

1 Québec is not a sognatory to the Social Union Framework Agreement

2 While sharing the same concerns on early childhood development, Québec does not adhere to these federal-provincial-territorial documents.

References

Corbett, B. (1989). *A century of kindergarten education in Ontario: 1887-1987*. Mississauga, ON: The Froebel Foundation.

Doherty, G., Lero, D., Goelman, H., LaGrange, A., & Tougas, J. (2000). *You bet I care! A Canada-wide study on: Wages, working conditions, and practices in child care centres.* Guelph, ON: Centre for Families, Work and Well-being, University of Guelph.

Doherty, G., Lero, D., Goelman, H., Tougas, J. & LaGrange, A. (2000). *You bet I care! Caring and learning environments: Quality in regulated family child care across Canada*. Guelph, ON: Centre for Families, Work and Well-being, University of Guelph.

Goelman, H., Doherty, G., Lero, D., LaGrange, A., & Tougas, J. (2000). *You bet I care! Caring and learning environments. Quality in child care centres across Canada*. Guelph, ON: Centre for Families, Work and Well-being, University of Guelph.

Mathien, J. (2001). *Children, families, and institutions in late 19th and early 20th century Ontario*. Toronto, ON: University of Toronto, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

Prochner, L. (2000). *A history of early education and child care in Canada, 1820-1966*. In Prochner, L. & Howe, N. (Eds.). Early childhood care and education in Canada: 11-65. Vancouver, BC: UBC Press.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

FEDERAL ECEC PROGRAMS

Under Canadian constitutional arrangements, it is assumed that child care and early childhood education services (ECEC) fall under provincial/territorial jurisdiction and this is generally the practice. However, there are a number of ECEC services and programs for which the federal government takes responsibility. Although there are some exceptions, ECEC services under federal aegis are intended for populations for whom the federal government has particular responsibility – for example, Aboriginal people, military families, and new immigrants and refugees. Table 1 describes ECEC programs for which the federal government is responsible.

TABLE 1

Ecec And Related Programs Under Federal Aegis

Program	Department	Objective	Eligibility	Spending
Child-minding	Citizenship and Immigration Canada	Care while parents who are newcomers take language training; intended to "help children adapt to Canada, acquire language, socialization".	Serves primarily 6 months – 6 years. Service provider organizations that provide language instruction for Newcomers programs. Note that national requirements for these are in the development process. In 2001, there were approximately 220 programs across Canada.	n/a
Military Family Resource Centres	Department of National Defence	Promote health and well being, information and referral for parents, aid to families in distress. Mandated programs serve 0-6 years. (May include child care centres).	Member of a military family. Military family resource programs are incorporated as not-for-profit agencies governed by Boards of Directors. In 2001, there were 35 MFRCs in Canada, 3 in the US (and 7 in Europe).	$4 M (Spending for 0-6 years) (2000-2001) (Additional funds were madeavailable to support new initiatives in 2001–2002)
Child Care Expense Deduction	Canada Customs and Revenue Agency	Reduces income tax associated with child care costs (0-16 years).	Individual tax deduction. Parent with lower income may deduct $7,000 for children under 7 and $4,000 for children aged 7-16. Receipt may be requested by CCRA. Claimed by 1.2 million families.	$424,000,000 (2000-2001)
Maternity/ Parental Leave Benefit	Human Resources Development Canada	Replace partial cost of provincially-determined maternity/parental leave for newborns and newly adopted children.	Female and male parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules.	$1,763,776,110 (2001)

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Community Action Program for Children	Health Canada (Note that CAPC provides a variety of programs which, in some regions, are family resource programs.)	Funds to deliver services to meet the developmental needs of children under age 6 living in conditions of risk.	Community coalitions providing specified programs for children: in low-income families; in teenage-parent families; at risk of, or having, developmental delays, social, emotional/behavioural problems; and /or neglected or abused. Special consideration is given to Métis, Inuit and off-reserve First Nations children, children of recent immigrants or refugees, children in lone-parent families and children in remote or isolated communities. There are 464 CAPC projects across Canada.	$59,500,000 (2000-2001)

Note: Federal ECEC programs for Aboriginal children are described in Table 2, Aboriginal ECEC programs.

Maternity and parental leave benefits

While the length of maternity and parental leaves and the conditions determining terms and eligibility are provincially determined under labour legislation, the benefit that pays eligible parents for portions of these leaves falls under the federal Employment Insurance legislation. First included in the then-Unemployment Insurance Act in 1971, the length of the federal benefit has increased a number of times in the intervening years. A notable increase occurred in 1989 when benefits for parental leave (either parent) were added to maternity leave benefits reserved for birth mothers.

Most recently, the federal government increased the parental leave portion of the benefit to 35 weeks. Under these new rules, maternity benefits of 15 weeks and the new parental benefit of 35 weeks to a total of 50 weeks will be paid at 55% of insured earnings up to a maximum of $413 a week to eligible parents.

The eligibility requirement now is 600 hours of insured work within the past 52 weeks (this requirement was reduced from 700 hours).

In 2001, spending for the federal benefit was:

Maternity	$831,938,660
Adoption	14,773,150
Parental	917,064,300

Total $1,763,776,110 The number of initial maternity leave benefit claims (2000/2001) may be found in each provincial/territorial section together with the number of births for 2000, the latest year available. It should be noted that the most recent data available for maternity and parental leave benefit claims (2001/2002) (not used in this publication) indicate a considerable increase in take-up.

ABORIGINAL ECEC

CONTEXT

Canada's Aboriginal populations include First Nations and non-status native people (on- and off-reserve), Métis and Inuit. Although many Aboriginal people live in remote and/or northern areas, there are large southern, urban populations as well.

Number of children 0-12 years identifying with an Aboriginal group, Canada (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	106,370	25,800	7,325
5-9	101,415	24,220	7,025
10-14	91,880	22,605	5,560

Note: These 1996 data are the most recent currently available. New data from the 2001 census are expected to become available in the spring of 2003.

ISSUES

Flexibility/accessibility

All Aboriginal groups have larger than average child populations, making early childhood education and care an especially important issue. There is a particular need for a wide range of flexible services to accommodate the diverse needs of the Aboriginal community.

Cultural integrity

The maintenance of indigenous culture is a major concern for all Aboriginal peoples. Aboriginal organizations point out that general standards for child care centres are sometimes too rigid for northern and/or remote communities and that they may not reflect traditional cultural norms and practices. Culturally sensitive early childhood education as it pertains to training and service delivery is of special concern. There is a strong interest among Aboriginal groups in developing ECEC programs that are operated and controlled by the communities themselves.

Government policy

Generally, funding for on-reserve social programs is the responsibility of the Government of Canada. In 1996 the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples recommended that

> federal, provincial, and territorial governments co-operate to support an integrated early childhood funding strategy that a) extends early childhood education to all Aboriginal children regardless of residence; b) encourages programs that foster the physical, social, intellectual and spiritual development of children, reducing distinctions between child care, prevention and education; c) maximizes Aboriginal control over service design and administration; d) offers one-stop accessible funding; and e) promotes parental involvement and choice in early childhood education options.

Although provincial governments in some provinces carry out regulation of on-reserve Aboriginal child care, other provincial governments have not regulated it. In some provinces, First Nations communities do not recognize provincial jurisdiction on reserves. First Nations and Inuit organizations have responsibility for administration of funds and for developing services.

In the past, funding for child care was limited to First Nations in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, in Ontario and Alberta where the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) covered costs in accordance with provincial funding policies, and in Québec where child care programs for First Nations children received national funding through the James Bay Northern Québec Agreement. Until 1995,

when the First Nations Inuit Child Care Initiative and Aboriginal Head Start were announced, there was relatively little spending for Aboriginal ECEC in much of Canada.

TABLE 2

Federal Aboriginal ECEC programs

Program	Department	Objective(s)	Eligibility	Spending (2001)
First Nations/ Inuit Child Care Initiative (FNICCI)	Human Resources Development Canada	Intended to achieve levels of quality and quantity of child care in First Nations and Inuit communities that are comparable to those available to the general population (ages 0-12 years).	On-reserve First Nations and Inuit communities. FNICCI funds child care in 389 First Nation and Inuit communities. FNICCI directly supports 6,833 child care spaces. In collaboration with First Nations Head Start and Aboriginal Head Start, FNICCI funds 14,237 spaces.	$41 M
Child Day Care Program Alberta	Indian and Northern Affaires	Child care for parents' employment/training (ages 0-12 years)	On-reserve First Nations in Alberta (as a result of the 1992 Administrative Reform Agreement (Canada and Alberta).	$2.7 M
Child Day Care Program Ontario	Indian and Northern Affairs	Child care for parents' employment/training (ages 0-12 years)	On-reserve First Nations in Ontario (as a result of a 1965 agreement between Canada and Ontario).	$12 M (2000-2001)
Aboriginal Head Start	Health Canada	Child's intellectual, spiritual, emotional and physical growth (ages 2-6 years).	Urban and northern First Nations off-reserve, Métis and Inuit communities. In 2000, there were AHS sites in 8 provinces and 3 territories, 3126 children.	$22.5 M
First Nations Head Start	Health Canada	Prepares children for schooling by meeting intellectual, spiritual, emotional and physical needs (ages 0-6 years).	On-reserve First Nations communities. As of December 2000, there were 168 funded First Nations Head Start projects (305 communities, 7,000 children).	$22.9 M
Aboriginal Head Start New Brunswick	Indian and Northern Affairs	Child's social development (ages 0-6 years).	Eleven agencies in New Brunswick.	$1.8 M (2000-2001)
First Nations Elementary Education (including pre-K and kindergarten)	Indian and Northern Affairs	To provide access to elementary First Nations students on-reserve including pre-K and kindergarten		$65 M

Note: See provincial/territorial Aboriginal ECEC programs, Table 11.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In November 2002, the federal government announced a funding allocation of $320 million over the next five years "to improve and expand" Early Child Development (ECD) programs and services for First Nations and other Aboriginal children. The funds will expand both Aboriginal Head Start programs, and the First Nations and Inuit Child Care Program; work toward development of a "single window" approach to ensure better integration and coordination; and introduce new research initiatives. These funds were announced in the 2001 federal budget.

Newfoundland and Labrador

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	15,100
3-5	15,300
6-12	46,400
Total 0-12	76,700

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	8,900
3-5	9,000
6-12	31,200
Total 0-12	49,200

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	1,410	460	755
5-9	1,525	455	790
10-14	1,705	490	695

Note: These 1996 data are the latest currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities (2001)

Age	Number of children with disabilities	Rate of children with disabilities (%)
0-4	360	1.5
5-9	1,070	3.9
10-14	1,370	4.1
Total 0-14 yrs	2,800	3.3

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2001 rounded estimate)

Age of youngest child	No. of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	8,000	64.1
3-5	6,000	66.0
6-15	26,000	74.4

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave
17 weeks.

Parental leave
35 weeks available to both parents.

Adoption leave
17 weeks of adoption leave to which can be added 35 weeks of parental leave.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 4,869
Number of initial maternity claims (2000-2001): 2,240

Note: Provincial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

•

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION

Newfoundland. House of Assembly. *Schools Act*. 1997. (Amended 1999, 2000, 2001). S.N.L 1997 c. S-12.2.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Department of Education.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten is delivered in public and private schools. It is available to all five year olds in Newfoundland and Labrador on a part-time basis. There are 570 instructional hours a year.

Kindergarten is not compulsory in Newfoundland and Labrador. Access is legislated; the right of access to education mandates kindergarten in every school.

AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old before December 31.

CLASS SIZE

There is no provincial class size limit and the mean class size is not available.

There are no provincial policies regarding teaching assistants.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a policy of inclusion in regular kindergartens. A variety of kinds of extra support is available if need is demonstrated, including student assistants who, under the direction of a teacher, assist children who have special needs with personal care (eg., toileting, portering, etc.)

The number of kindergarten children with identified special needs is not available.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT (2000-2001)

Five year olds: 5,465

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

B.Ed. is required. Concentration in Primary Methods is desirable.

There are no teaching assistants in Newfoundland. How-ever, student assistants for children with special needs require a high school diploma.

CURRICULUM

There is a provincial curriculum guide, Early Beginnings. The focus is on a holistic approach with outcomes for all academic areas and different developmental aspects, with an emphasis on hands-on experiences.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Average spending per kindergarten student
Information not available.

Total spending for kindergarten
Information not available.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Under provincial policy, ESL (English as a Second Language) teachers are provided by the provincial government to school boards which may deploy them at their discretion.

A program for orientation to kindergarten (Kinderstart) was introduced in September 2002. It consists of eight one-hour orientation sessions for children and their parents/caregivers in the year prior to kindergarten entry. It is offered at the discretion of school boards. The Literacy Branch of the Department of Education makes funds and resources available to school boards for Kinderstart.

REGULATED CHILD CARE SERVICES

LEGISLATION

Newfoundland House of Assembly. *Child Care Services Act. — SNL 1998, chapter c-11.1, amended 1999 c22 s6, 2001 c36.*

Newfoundland House of Assembly. *Child Care Services Regulation* 37/99.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Child Care Services
Department of Health and Community Services
Confederation Building, West Block
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, Newfoundland A1B 4J6
Telephone: (709) 729-2093
Facsimile: (709) 729-6382

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted: 4

If all are under 24 months, maximum is three children. Figure includes the caregiver's own children under seven years.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Day care centres
Centre-based care for more than six children from 0-12 years between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. Care may be full- or part-day. Overnight care is not permitted.

School-age child care centres
Centre-based care outside school hours for school-aged children up to 12 years.

Family child care

Care in the home of the caregiver for up to eight children including the caregiver's own children not attending school on a full-time basis. Not more than three children may be under 36 months, of these, no more than two may be under 24 months.

Family child care homes may be approved by an agency licensed by the provincial government or may be individually licensed by the province.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Newfoundland does not have a written policy regarding children with special needs.

One regulated centre works exclusively with children at environmental risk and their families, serving approximately 50 children at a time, both full- and part-time. The centre receives core funding from Health and Community Services; and parents, who pay no fees, are not income tested.

Parents whose children require additional support to attend typical child care programs may receive a child welfare allowance if they meet eligibility requirements under a means test. The allowance is paid directly to the parent who hires an individual to provide the support to the child in the child care setting. The setting may include a child care centre, family child care home or unregulated home. Parents who do not meet eligibility requirements for the special welfare allowance must pay for additional supports themselves.

There are no special training requirements for staff working with children with special needs.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

In January 1998, the first on-reserve child care centre was licensed for the Miawpukek First Nation at Conne River, the only reserve in Newfoundland and Labrador. It was the choice of Conne River Health and Social Services to apply for a provincial license and comply with provincial regulations. A second centre that is not licensed was opened at Conne River in 2001. The licensed program receives the same funding as other centres in the province and parents are eligible for funding.

In addition, centres were developed in Hopedale and Goose Bay under the First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative funding. There is also one child care centre in the Inuit community of Nain. When in operation as a child care centre, these facilities are required to be licensed. However, at times the centres operate with parents remaining on site and during such periods do not operate with a license.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)

Centre-based	
Full-time	3,124
Part-time	508
School-age	594
Total number of licensed spaces	4,226

Note: At the time of data collection, regulated family child care was operating with pilot project status, and no centres were yet licensed for infant care. As a result there are no statistics on the number of spaces in family child care, and no age breakdown in centre-based care.

Children with special needs in regulated child care (2001)

Statistics are not kept on total number of children with special needs attending typical child care facilities but approximately 273 children with special needs received a fee subsidy. There are also 50 children with special needs at Daybreak Parent/Child Centre.

Children receiving subsidies (2001) 1,015

Subsidized children as a proportion of total regulated spaces (2001) 24%

Sponsorship of full-time regulated centre spaces (2001)

Non-profit	1,523
For-profit	2,703

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum centre size

60 spaces

Maximum staff: child ratios and group sizes

Age of child	Staff:child ratio	Max. group size
0 to 24 months	1:3	6
25 to 36 months	1:5	10
37 to 69 months	1:8	16
57 to 84 months and attending school	1:12	24
85 to 144 months	1:15	30

Staff qualification requirements

Certification levels:

- Level two certification requires a minimum of a two year diploma in Early Childhood Education. Staff are certified to work with particular age groups. (See note below.)
- Level one certification requires a minimum of a one year certificate in Early Childhood Education. Staff are certified to work with particular age groups. (See note below.)
- Entry level certification requires completion of an orientation course of 30-60 hours depending on the age group with which the staff will be working.

Note: Prior to 1997, the focus of early childhood training was on children aged 2-12. After that time, training included an infant care component. Since certification was introduced, individuals with ECE qualifications received before 1997 are certified to work with children 2-12. Those wishing to be certified to work with infants must complete a 50 hour self-study program. Graduates of ECE programs after 1997 are certified to work with children 0-12.

Centre operators must have level two certification in the age groups for which the centre is licensed and two or more years experience working with children in those age groups, or its equivalent from another jurisdiction.

Each group of children requires one staff person with level one certification for the age group in which the staff is assigned and a minimum of one year's experience in that classification.

All other staff who are included in the staff:child ratio must have entry level certification (30-60 hour orientation course).

A minimum of 30 hours of professional development within every three years is required to keep any certification level valid.

The Department of Health and Community Services contracts with the Association of Early Childhood Educators of Newfoundland and Labrador to certify staff and to deliver the orientation courses at no cost to the child care community.

Parent involvement

Parent involvement is not specified.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Regional staff employed by the Department of Health and Community Services carry out monitoring and enforcement of standards. Each of the six regions has a director of child care services, and one or more child care consultants and social workers. The child care consultants have a degree in early childhood education and three years experience.

Centres are inspected at least once per year. Child Care Services Staff visit centres regularly (monthly where possible) and are available upon request to provide support, advice and direction.

Fire/life safety and health inspections are done annually by officials of the provincial Government Service Centre, Department of Government Services and Lands.

Infractions result in a violation notice to the centre requesting immediate compliance. The legislation authorizes a licensing hearing of noncompliance and closure of a centre if deemed appropriate.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

Regulation

The province licenses non-profit family child care agencies which enter into contractual arrangements with caregivers to provide child care in compliance with the regulations. The province also licenses individual providers.

Maximum capacity

Care for up to six children including the provider's own children not attending school on a full-time basis. Not more than three children may be under 36 months; of these, no more than two may be under 24 months. Under exceptional circumstances (and with director's approval), the provider may add two school-age children if she has two children of her own who are younger than school age. With director's approval, a seventh child may be added for a maximum of 1H hours per day, or for a maximum of 12 continuous hours once a week.

A provider may care for three children under 24 months, providing that there are no other children being cared for at the same time.

Provider qualification requirements

Providers who work under the supervision of an agency or who are individually licensed are required to have entry level certification (30-60 hour course). A minimum of 30 hours of professional development every three years is required to keep the certification valid.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

In agency-based family child care, home visitors make both announced and unannounced visits at least once a month to monitor the home and provide support to the provider. Home visitors also conduct annual inspection visits at least once a year at which time a written evaluation of the child care service and related requirements is completed. In addition, annual fire/life safety and health inspections are conducted by Government Services Centre inspectors.

Home visitors are responsible for a maximum of 20 homes and are required to have at least level two certification and two years experience in a family child care setting.

Agencies are inspected annually by staff of regional Health and Community Services boards.

Individually licensed homes are monitored and supported through monthly visits (where possible), and receive annual inspections from staff of regional Health and Community Services boards. In addition, annual fire/life safety and health inspections are conducted by Government Services Centre inspectors.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee assistance is paid directly to non-profit and for-profit service providers on behalf of eligible parents.

Families on social assistance have been needs tested and no other testing is done. Other families are income tested.

Any licensed non-profit or for-profit child care program is eligible to enrol children receiving subsidies. There is no minimum user fee but programs may surcharge subsidized parents above the maximum subsidy rates.

Application for child care subsidy is usually conducted in person but may be done by a mail-in process if the applicant does not require assistance.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 2001)

	Turning point	Break-even point
1 parent, 1 child	$14,160	$20,280
2 parents, 2 children	15,240	25,560

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases.

Child development or social need of the child is considered in the eligibility criteria for subsidy whether the parent is in the paid labour force or training or not.

Maximum subsidy rates (2001) (centres and fcc)

Full-day (8H hours/day)	
– 0-24 months	$30.00/day
– 2-12 years	21.25/day
Part-day (up to 4H hours)	
– 0-24 months	15.74/day
– 2-12 years	11.10/day
School-age (up to 4H hours)	9.50/day

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidies	**$6,191,000**
One time funding	
Renovation grants*	200,000
Recurring funding	
Equipment grants**	250,000
Supports to infant centres in high schools***	75,000
Family child care agencies	237,000
Daybreak Centre	800,000
Total	$7,753,000

**Funds for centres that require renovations to meet the requirements of the new Child Care Services legislation.*

***In the 2002 fiscal year, educational supplements for centre-based staff and equipment grants for family child care were introduced (see recent developments).*

****Three infant centres receive $25,000 annually towards their operation. Under previous legislation there was no mechanism to license the centres, which will become licensed in the near future.*

Other funding

Child Care Services Certification and orientation training	$70,000
Educational Development Support*	20,000

**Funds for centre-based staff who need to upgrade to meet the requirements of the new Child Care Services legislation.*

Direct payments to parents for child care:
Families on social assistance who need child care and for whom a regulated space is not available, who have an infant, or who require weekend or evening care may receive $325/month for the first child and $125/month for each additional child. The money goes directly to the parent and is the same amount regardless of the age of the child. The 2001 budget for this program was $1.5 million and approximately 500-600 children/month are served.

SALARIES

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full- and part-time staff combined), (1998)

Assistant teachers	$6.37
Teachers	6.76
Teacher-directors	7.89
Administrative directors	12.07

Source: You Bet I Care! More recent information not available.

FEES (1998)

Median monthly parent fees for full-time centre-based care

Infants (Age 0-17 mos)	n/a*
Toddlers (Age 18 mos-3 yrs)	$380
Preschoolers (Age 3 yrs-5.11yrs)	360
School-age	n/a

**At time of the data collection in 1998, there was no regulated infant care in Newfoundland and Labrador.*

Source: You Bet I Care! More recent information not available.

Average daily fee in family child care
Information not available.

ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Health and Community Services establishes standards and allocates public funds on behalf of eligible families. The six regional Health and Community Services Boards and Integrated Boards make decisions about opening centres, issue and monitor licenses and approve staff to work in child care programs.

MUNICIPAL OR OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

There is no municipal or other local government role in regulated child care.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

There is no formal plan for the development of child care.

OTHER ECEC SERVICES

Family Resource Programs

In Newfoundland and Labrador, there are nine family resource programs (FRPs) with approximately 50 satellite programs funded through Health Canada's Community Action Program for Children and six FRPs with 24 satellite programs funded provincially through the National Child Benefit. It is anticipated that the Early Childhood Development Initiative will provide funding for an additional six sites.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1900 A child care facility was established by the Presenta-tion Sisters in Renews.

1968 *The Welfare Institutions Licensing Act* was enacted, authorizing licensing of child care facilities for children two years of age and older and prohibiting child care facilities for children under two years of age.

1975 *The Day Care and Homemaker Services Act* was enacted allowing public funds to be used for fee subsidies. Regulations were implemented in 1976.

1982 New Regulations were drafted to replace those of 1976.

1989 The Association of Early Childhood Educators of Newfoundland and Labrador was established.

1990 *Day Care and Homemaker Services Act 1975* was consolidated to become the *Day Care and Homemaker Services Act RSN 1990 C.D. -2.*

1993 In May, both the one-time start-up and the annual equipment grants were suspended due to budget reductions. A cap was placed on the expansion of the number of fee subsidies.

1994 The position of Director of Day Care and the Day Care Division was eliminated and the child care program was assigned to the Director of Family and Rehabilitative Services and a Policy Specialist.

1996 *Report of the Select Committee on Children's Interests* (provincial government task force report) recommended that investment be made in early childhood education.

Until 1996, Newfoundland had two year early childhood training programs at four college locations and a one year program run by the Community Services Council. The provincial government closed one of these locations and reduced enrollment at a second program. The program run by the Community Services Council closed in 1996.

At the request of the Owners' and Operators' Association, the provincial government issued a directive to employer-supported centres to cease to enrol children whose parents did not work at that location. The rationale was that in-kind funding (for occupancy costs) interfered with competition in the for-profit sector's marketplace.

1997 The government of Newfoundland and Labrador appointed a Social Policy Advisory Committee which traveled across the province holding hearings regarding social programs and services. A final report, *People, Partners and Prosperity: A Social Strategic Plan for Newfoundland and Labrador* was released in 1998. Early childhood education and early intervention were highlighted as important services needing further development.

1998 The government announced that it would spend $10.15 million annually from the National Child Benefit Program in new programs and services. Of this total, $4.6 million was for the improvement and expansion of regulated child care. This included new child care subsidies, introduction of regulated family child care, introduction of licensed infant care, certification of child care staff, and program funds to assist with the development of child care services, such as the hiring of regional early childhood education consultants. An additional $1.15 million was to be spent on family resource program sites.

An Early Childhood Services Advisory Committee, representing stakeholders in the community, worked with government officials on the proposed Child Care Services Act. The new Act and Regulations were to enable the development of the planned new programs and services. Responsibility for child care moved to the Department of Health and Community Services from Social Services.

People, Partners and Prosperity, the province's strategic social plan, was released. It set out a framework for social action in an effort to achieve social and economic prosperity and contains three overall strategic directions:

- building on community and regional strengths;
- integrating social and economic development; and
- investing in people.

One objective of the social development plan was to reduce social and health problems through community prevention and early intervention initiatives, including early childhood enrichment, such as parent development programs, resource centres and links to the school system. Changes occurring in the child care system were to be linked to this strategic plan.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1999 The Child Care Services Act and Regulation were proclaimed. This new legislation allows for regulated family child care and infant care, introduces training and certification requirements for staff, and makes a number of expansions to child care services.

2001 The first two family child care agencies were funded as pilot projects.

One-time funding was provided for centre renovations in order to meet the requirements of the new legislation and for existing staff to meet the new training requirements.

Equipment grants were introduced and subsidy eligibility levels were increased.

2001/2002 Approximately $2 million of the $5.2 million in Early Childhood Development Initiative funding was allocated to child care. The allocation for regulated child care in the first year is as follows:

- $1 million toward increased fee subsidies
- $790,000 toward educational supplements for all centre-based staff with a level one or two certification. Quarterly payments are made directly by the government to individual staff. Staff with a level one certification receive $1,040/year in year one, increasing to $2,080 by year three. Staff with level two certification receive $2,080/year, increasing to $4,160 by year three.
- $20,000 toward equipment grants for family child care.

KEY PROVINCIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Family Home Child Care Association of
Newfoundland and Labrador
c/o 10 Diefenbaker Street
St John's, NF A1A 2M1
Telephone: 709-753-2795

Association of Early Childhood Education of Newfoundland and Labrador
P.O. Box 8657
St. John's, NF A1B 3T1
Telephone: 709-579-3004 or 1-866-579-3004
Facsimile: 709-579-0217
Email: aecenl@nsld.net
Website: www.cfc-efc.ca/aecel

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association
3 Kenmount Road
St. John's, NF A1B 1W1
Telephone: 709-726-3223
Facsimile: 709-726-4302
Website: www.nlta.nf.ca

Prince Edward Island

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	4,600
3-5	5,100
6-12	13,000
Total 0-12	22,600

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	3,200
3-5	3,500
6-12	10,100
Total 0-12	16,900

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	280	10	nil
5-9	255	50	nil
10-14	260	35	10

Note: These 1996 data are the most recent currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities (2001)

Age	Number of children with disabilities	Rate of children with disabilities (%)
0-4	170	2.3
5-9	360	4.0
10-14	400	4.1
Total 0-14 yrs	940	3.5

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2001 rounded estimate)

Age of youngest child	No. of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-3	3,000	76.9
3-5	2,000	79.3
6-15	8,000	85.4

Note: The numbers of mothers were incorrectly stated in the previous edition of this publication (2000).

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave
17 weeks.

Parental leave
35 weeks. The total parental leave for both parents cannot exceed 35 weeks.

Adoption Leave
52 weeks. The combined total leave for both parents cannot exceed 52 weeks.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 1,441
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 920

Note: Provincial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

Prince Edward Island introduced publicly funded kindergarten in September 2000 for the first time.

LEGISLATION

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. School Act. 1994. s. 82-85.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Department of Education.

Department of Health and Social Services.

The Department of Health and Social Services is responsible for licensing, teacher/staff certification and supports for children with special needs. The Department of Edu-cation is responsible for funding, curriculum development and in-service training.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

KINDERGARTEN

PEI's kindergarten programs operate within non-profit and for-profit child care centres under child care legislation. A kindergarten program must operate no less than three hours per day, five days per week or the equivalent, and provide 2.5 hours of instructional time (programs may operate for between five and 10 months in a 12 month period).

A three hour day is available at no charge to the parent. Parents whose children attend a full day in the child care service either pay fees for the balance of the day, or, if eligible, receive a child care subsidy.

Kindergarten programs are offered in 50 of the 54 full-day child care centres as well as in 54 part-day programs that provide only kindergarten for five year olds. Approx-imately 30-40% of these part-day centres are located in schools. To be in a school, a kindergarten must have a parent board and can only provide a half-day program.

Kindergarten is not compulsory. Parents are responsible for transportation. School boards will transport kindergarten age children on buses if there is room available.

While there are enough licensed spaces for every five year old, parents may not be able to access program of first choice.

AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old by Jan 31.

CLASS SIZE

There is no specified class size but child:teacher ratios of 1:12 are legislated under the *Child Care Facilities Act*.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a philosophy of inclusion. Child specific special needs grants are available to centres for additional staffing from the Department of Health and Social Services. A school-aged child with a special need may attend a second year of kindergarten.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT (2000-01)

Five year olds: 1,698

97% of eligible children attend (before public funding 85% of eligible children attended).

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Early Childhood Certification as outlined in the child care legislation is required.

CURRICULUM

The Department of Education is introducing core components of the Atlantic Provinces Education Foundation curriculum K to 12 for Atlantic Provinces. Language arts and math are integrated into the curriculum, while the approach remains play-based in kindergarten.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

Effective September 2001, the funding formula for kindergarten programs is as follows:

Non-profit in schools	$150/month/child
Non-profit/kindergarten only	$160/month/child
Non-profit/combined program	$170/month/child
For-profit /kindergarten only	$180/month/child
For-profit /combined program	$200/month/child
Total spending for kindergarten	$1,621,047

Note: This reflects funding from September 2000, when publicly-funded kindergarten began, to March 31, 2001. Full year funding would be $3.2 million.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *The Child Care Facilities Act*. 1988.

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Facilities Regulations*. 1988.

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *The Welfare Act*. 1988.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Kathleen Flanagan Rochon
Director
Children's Secretariat
Department of Health and Social Services
16 Garfield Street
P.O. Box 2000
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island C1A 7N8
Telephone: (902) 368-6517
Facsimile: (902) 368-6136

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted 5

If all children are under two years, three are allowed, or five preschoolers if not more than two of them are younger than two years. Six are allowed in a mixed-age group up to 10 years with no more than two younger than two years. Figures include the caregiver's own preschool-age children.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Early childhood centres
Group care for less than 24 hours/day for children from birth to seven years including half-day kindergartens for children aged five years old and half-day nursery schools for children aged 2-5 years.

School-age child care centres
Care outside school hours for school-age children (usually 6-12 years).

Family day care homes
Full-day care in a private home for mixed-age groups up to a maximum of seven children, including the provider's own children under 12, with a maximum of three children under two years.

Occasional centres
Care on a flexible basis for children between birth and 10 years.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There are no segregated child care programs for children with disabilities.

Centres may apply for a special needs grant on behalf of a child. A grant of up to $11.50/hour based on the training and experience of the staff hired is available. Some documentation is required to receive the additional support but it is flexible and may include social need. Additional supports are covered whether or not the parent is subsidized. Parents of children with special needs are not required to be employed or in training to receive a subsidy.

Special needs funding usually provides for additional staff to lower the ratio. The funding is capped, and in 2001, there was a waiting list for the first time.

No specific training is required for staff to work with children with special needs.

A pilot project is underway with the Early Childhood Development Association of Prince Edward Island using the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale for centres enrolling children with special needs.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Prince Edward Island does not fund or license child care programs on-reserve. There are no First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative programs in PEI. There is one kindergarten centre on-reserve but it is not licensed.

The Abegweit First Nation on the Scotchfort reserve operates an Aboriginal Head Start program. It serves 2-6 year olds, operates from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is unregulated.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)

Centre-based	Full-time	Part-time*
Infants	75	5
Preschool	1,243	511
School-age	—	519
Kindergarten	600	1,099
Special needs	120	44
Total full-time	2,038	
Total part-time		2,178**

**Note: Part-time includes spaces in part-time centres and part-time spaces in full-day centres.*

***Note: For purposes of comparison with other provinces, the figure 1,079 (excluding part-time kindergarten) is used.*

Family child care	54
Total regulated spaces	4,270

Children with special needs in regulated child care (1998) 125

Note: Information for 2001 is not available.

Children receiving subsidies (2001) 1,072

Subsidized children as a proportion of total regulated spaces (2001) 34%

Note: For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions where kindergarten is in the public education system, this figure does not include part-day kindergarten.

Sponsorship of regulated spaces (2001)

Non-profit	2,300
For-profit	1,970

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum centre size
50 spaces

Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-2 yrs	1:3	6
2-3 yrs	1:5	not specified
3-5 yrs	1:10	not specified
5-6 yrs	1:12	not specified
7+ yrs	1:15	not specified

Staff qualification requirements
Centre supervisors and one full time staff member in each program must have at least one year early childhood development diploma or university child study degree.

Thirty hours of in-service training every three years is required for all staff.

Parent involvement
Not specified.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Each year, every centre is visited for licensing purposes by Early Childhood Services which observes programming, and by the Child Care Facilities Board, which concentrates primarily on administration. Annual inspections are required by the Fire Marshall's office and the Environ-mental Health Division of the Department of Health and Social Services.

If a centre is not in compliance with the legislation, it may operate under a regular license but is given a specific time-frame in which to comply. A centre may be permitted to have a provisional license for a period of six months or it may have its license revoked or not renewed. A centre receiving a provisional license or having its license revoked or not renewed may appeal directly to the Minister who then must establish an Appeal Board. This Board must conduct an inquiry and render a decision within 30 days.

The Department of Health and Social Services and the Early Childhood Development Association provides training to the staff of early childhood centres to use the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale — Revised (ECERS-R) and the Canadian Supplementary Scale (CSS) developed for *You Bet I Care!* In addition, they also provide training to supervisors to use the SpeciaLink Child Care Inclusion Profile (SCCIP) to maintain and/or improve inclusive environments.

The Department of Education has appointed a staff resource to the Child Care Facilities Board to be responsible for inspections in Kindergarten centres only.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

Regulation
Providers are individually licensed.

Maximum capacity
Up to seven children including the provider's own children under 12 years, with a maximum of three children under two years.

Provider qualification requirements
A 30 hour training program, two letters of reference and current first-aid certificate.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Early Childhood Services conducts a program review using the Family Day Care Rating Scale. Annual inspections are made by a Child Care Facilities Board inspector, an inspector for the Fire Marshall's office and an Environ-mental Health officer.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents. Eligibility is determined by an income test and by social criteria: parent(s) working or studying; parental medical emergency; child in need of protection; children with special needs; and school readiness (for five year olds). Eligibility assessments are conducted in person at regional offices of the health authority.

The provincial fee subsidy budget is capped. It changed from an open-ended system to a limited one in 1992/93. If funds are unavailable, eligible families are placed on one of five regional waiting lists. However, there is no waiting list for subsidy.

Any regulated non-profit or for-profit child care program is eligible to enrol children receiving subsidies.

There is no minimum user fee. Centres and family day care homes may surcharge subsidized parents higher than the maximum subsidy. Approximately half the centres charge fees higher than the maximum subsidy but not all require subsidized parents to pay this difference.

Parents in receipt of social assistance have access to the Child Care Subsidy Program.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 2001)

	Turning point	Break-even point
1 parent, 1 child	$13,440	$25,440
2 parents, 2 children	19,200	51,040

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases.

Maximum subsidy by age of child (2001)

0-2 yrs	$24/ day
2-3 yrs	20/ day
3+ yrs	19/ day
School-age	18/day

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

All licensed non-profit and for-profit child care centres are eligible for all funding programs.

One-time funding None

Recurring funding

Operating grants
Full-day centre-based programs$0.91/day/space

Part-time centre-based programs
- 12 children or fewer $682/year
- 24 children or fewer $1,092/year
- 50 children or fewer $1,820/year

Note: Funding is calculated according to months of operation and is less than stated above if the program operates less than 12 months a year.

Family day care homes $450/year

Note: Operating funding has been frozen since 1992; approximately half the regulated centres and homes receive no funding.

Infant incentive funding
$250/year. An annual grant provided to centres and family day care programs enrolling at least one child younger than two years on a regular basis for at least six months.

Special needs funding
Available to centre-based and family day care programs to pay staff to provide individualized programming for children with special needs. The funding will cover wages up to $11.50/hour based on training and experience.

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Child care fee subsidies $3,190,507

One-time funding None

Recurring funding

Special needs funding	782,878
Operating grants	256,323
Total*	$4,229,706

Kindergarten funding to early childhood centres** $1,621,047

**For the purposes of comparison with other jurisdictions where kindergarten is in the public education system, kindergarten funding has been separated from spending on regulated child care.*

***Funding to kindergarten programs began in September 2000. This expenditure reflects funding from September 2000 to March 31, 2001. Full year funding is $3.2 million.*

Other funding

Training and professional development
Funds are allocated annually by the Department of Health and Social Services to assist with the purchase of resources and to the Early Childhood Development Association to provide professional development to early childhood educators.

Other child care assistance
The provincial social assistance budget has $50,000 for unregulated care for infants, or for extended-hour care when regulated care is unavailable, or for occasional "babysitting" costs.

SALARIES

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full and part-time staff combined) (2001)

	Median hourly	Median range (within which 80% fall)
Uncertified	$7.01	$6.15-9.00
Certified ECEs	8.00	7.00-10.50
Certified ECEs in kindergarten	10.00	8.50-13.50
Special needs staff	9.00	7.50-10.55

Source: Review and Analysis of the PEI ECE Industry (2001).

Family child care
Information not available.

FEES

Median monthly parent fees for centre-based full-time care (2001)

Infants	$520
Toddlers	432
Preschool	412
School-age	Information not available

Source: Review and Analysis of the PEI ECE Industry (2001).

Average daily fee in family child care
Information not available.

ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Health and Social Services is responsible for the regulation of child care services and management of government funds allocated to child care.

The Child Care Facilities Board is responsible for standards and regulations, monitoring, qualifications and certification of child care staff. The Board includes six members who represent the health and social services system, the Department of Education, the Early Child-hood Association and the public at large, and a Chair who is a public official.

The regional offices of the health authority are responsible for assessing eligibility for subsidy.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

There is no legislated municipal role for the development or delivery of child care.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Five principles guide the planning of child care: quality, affordability, accessibility, providing for children with special needs, and parent involvement.

Application to the Child Care Facilities Board for a license must include a needs assessment that documents the need for child care in a particular area.

RELATED PROGRAMS

Employment Initiatives
Employment Enhancement and Job Creation are programs for social assistance recipients. Parents enrolled in either program access regular child care subsidies to use the regulated system. The only exception is for those with infants who cannot find a space, or those who work odd, irregular hours. Those parents may access the same fund in the welfare system that provides for occasional babysitting. The provincial social assistance budget has $50,000 for unregulated care.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1950s Head Start program for economically and culturally disadvantaged children was established in Charlotte-town.

1969 Child care centres were initiated in northeastern rural Prince Edward Island with federal Regional Economic Expansion funding.

1971 St. Andrew's Child Development Centre was established as a full-time child care centre. The provincial Department of Social Services was responsible for monitoring and funding.

Funding arrangements were established to pay the full operating costs for six non-profit, community-based centres.

1973 *The Child Care Facilities Act* was enacted.

1974 The Early Childhood Development Association was established as a professional association of early childhood educators.

1977 The operating cost system was changed to a subsidy program for non-profit and for-profit programs.

1987 Implementation of direct grants to licensed child care programs.

1988 Introduction of special needs grants to child care programs enrolling children with special needs.

1993 Report of a working group set up by the Minister of Education recommended that the age of entry into kindergarten and Grade 1 remain as they have been and that a standard kindergarten play-based curriculum be designed. Work of this committee was linked to the development of a common Atlantic curriculum for elementary and secondary schools.

Operating grants for both centre-based programs and family child care were reduced by 9% from 1992 levels (except for infants).

1998 $600,000 from the National Child Benefit Reinvest-ment fund was used to raise subsidy eligibility levels 30% and to increase the subsidy rates.

Community Services, the Attorney General, and the Department of Education formed an interdepartmental health and social services committee on children. (The Coordinator of Community Services has the lead.) Four objectives were developed:

- to encourage secure attachment
- to minimize known risks
- to maximize critical learning periods
- to support early intervention.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

2000 Publicly funded, community-delivered kindergarten was introduced for the first time (see kindergarten section for details).

November 2000 The government released For *Our Children: A Strategy for Healthy Child Development* and announced the establishment of the Premier's Council on Healthy Child Development to advise the premier on issues affecting young children in PEI. The Departments of Health and Social Services, Education, Development and Technology, the Office of the Attorney General, and Community and Cultural Affairs as well as community groups are working in partnership to implement the strategy. The Council is to monitor the implementation of the province's Healthy Child Development Strategy with a focus on child outcomes in the four goal areas identified by the Strategy: good health, safety and security, success at learning, and social engagement and responsibility. The Healthy Child Development Strategy is the responsibility of the five deputy ministers of the departments listed above.

2001 *The Review and Analysis of the Prince Edward Island ECE Industry*, based on You Bet I Care! and funded through a Labour Market Development Agreement with Human Resources Development Canada was undertaken.

Funding was provided to the Early Childhood Develop-ment Association for a pilot project aimed at improving quality.

2001 The $1.3 million Early Childhood Development Initiative funding was allocated as follows:

- early intervention for children with autism: $700,000
- kindergarten: $500,000
- support to the Premier's Council for the Healthy Child Development Strategy: $100,000

2001/2002 The focus was children with special needs, based on the *Keeping the Door Open* model (see FURTHER READINGS, Lysack, M., 2001). Funds were provided for two staff to work with 200 child care staff in 29 centres. The goal is to expand the program to include all centres.

A new Aboriginal two year ECE diploma program is under development at Holland College.

KEY PROVINCIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Early Childhood Development Association of Prince Edward Island
40 Enman Crescent, Room #228
P.O. Box 23055
Charlottetown, PE C1E 1Z6
Telephone: 902-368-1866
Facsimile: 902-569-7900

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation
24 Glen Stewart Drive
P.O. Box 6000
Charlottetown, PE C1A 8B4
Telephone: 902-569-4157
Facsimile: 902-569-3682
Website: www.peift.com

Nova Scotia

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	30,000
3-5	31,400
6-12	80,400
Total 0-12	141,800

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	20,000
3-5	20,300
6-12	56,800
Total 0-12	97,200

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	2,930	170	115
5-9	2,630	160	75
10-14	2,550	95	60

Note: These 1996 data are the most recent currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities (2001)

Age	Number of children with disabilities	Rate of children with disabilities (%)
0-4	630	1.3
5-9	2,340	4.3
10-14	3,250	5.3
Total 0-14 yrs	6,210	3.8

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2001 rounded estimate)

Age of youngest child	No. of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	18,000	71.4
3-5	13,000	72.2
6-15	44,000	78.1

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave
17 weeks.

Parental leave
Both parents are entitled to 52 weeks which must be taken within 12 months of the child's birth. 35 weeks for birth mothers who have taken pregnancy/maternity leave.

Adoption leave
52 weeks.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 9,116
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 5,190

Note: Provincial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION
Nova Scotia. Legislative Assembly. *Education Act and Regulation. 1995-96.* Amended 1998, 2000, 2002.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN
Department of Education.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

GRADE PRIMARY

Grade Primary is delivered in public and private schools. It is available to all five year olds in Nova Scotia on a full-time basis (a minimum of four hours/day are required for Grade Primary to Grade 2).

Grade Primary is an entitlement and is compulsory in Nova Scotia.

AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old before October 1.

CLASS SIZE

Class size limits of 25 are about to be set by the provincial government for Grade Primary to Grade Two.

Average/mean class size
(current Grade Primary to Grade 2)
27% of classes have more than 25 students
73% of classes have 25 or fewer students

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a policy of including children with special needs in the least restrictive setting. Extra support is available and children have Individual Program Plans. Resources such as assistants and technology are provided. A per pupil special education grant is available to school boards.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT (2001-02)

Five year olds (Anglophone and Francophone): 10,368

Total other ages: 140
(4 Plus students in Halifax — see SPECIAL FEATURES)

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

A valid teaching certificate (B.Ed) is required. There is no differential certification for kindergarten.

CURRICULUM

There is a provincial kindergarten curriculum, Founda-tion for Grade Primary. The focus is on the transition from home to school, on the foundations for lifelong learning and on fostering development in all areas. Specific curriculum outcomes in all areas are included.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Average on each kindergarten student
Information not available.

Total spending on kindergarten
Information not available.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Some school boards (Halifax) have a pre-Grade Primary (4 Plus) initiative for inner-city schools and at-risk populations. The Department of Education provides some funding support. 4 Plus is not an entitlement for four year olds.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

Nova Scotia. Legislative Assembly. Day Care Act and Regulations. Chapter 120, of the Revised Statutes, 1989. R.S., c. 120, s. 1

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Virginia O'Connell
Director
Early Childhood Development Services
Department of Community Services
P.O. Box 696
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T7
Telephone: (902) 424-5499
Facsimile: (902) 424-0708

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted 6

Six children who may be of mixed-age groups including the caregiver's own preschool children. If all children including the caregiver's own are school-age, eight children are permitted.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Child care centres
Care in a group setting for less than 24 hours/day for seven or more children from 0-12 years. This includes full-day child care centres, preschools, nursery schools and programs for school-age children.

Child Development Centres (CDC)
CDCs were established to provide a pre-school experience for children deemed to be "at risk" to prepare them for school entry. They are licensed under the Day Care Act and Regulations and are required to operate on at a minimum 1:12 staff/child ratio. Centres receive a grant which cannot exceed 50% of their operating costs. In order to qualify for a grant, at least half the families of children enrolled must qualify for assistance under established income guidelines (the former Canada Assistance Plan guidelines). These income guidelines are higher than those that must be met to qualify for regular child care subsidy. The director of the CDC administers the income test and keeps the information on file as required for licensing inspections.

Centres are free to establish their own fees, which are often on a sliding scale according to family income. The amount of funding is generally based on past allocations and not formula-based on capacity or actual costs. There are 31 part-day pre-school programs in 35 locations.

Family day care homes
Care in a private home for up to six children of mixed ages including the provider's own children, or eight school-age children including the provider's own school-age children.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Licensed child care centres may receive additional funding from $28 to $70 per full day to support the inclusion of children with special needs. The funding is intended to cover additional costs associated with including children with special needs in child care programs. Eligibility is based on evidence of the child's disability.

Developmental centres have a designated allotment of special needs spaces; other special needs spaces are allocated on an as-needed case by case basis.

This grant depends on availability of funding and is not an entitlement.

Parents of children with special needs are not income tested for additional supports. Historically, 10% of all new child care subsidy allocations are directed towards this program.

Differential funding is not available in family child care but may used in part-day centres.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Development of on-reserve child care as part of the First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative is the responsibility of the Tri-Partite Committee. There are 11 on-reserve child care centres with 225 spaces in Nova Scotia. Centres follow provincial regulations but are not licensed.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)

Centre-based	
– Full-day	7,957
– Part-day	3,357
Family child care	150
Total regulated spaces	11,464

Children with special needs in regulated child care (2001) 238

Children receiving subsidies (2001)

2,560 spaces with specific allocations to registered, non-profit centres, and 95 portable spaces that may be used in for-profit and non-profit centres, and which follow the child.

Total subsidies	2,655

Subsidized children as a proportion of total regulated spaces (2001) 23%

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (2001)

	Full-time	Part-time	Total
Non-profit	4,545	1,806	6,501
For-profit	3,412	1,551	4,963
Total	7,957	3,357	11,314

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum centre size

60 spaces
(recommended but not mandatory)

Maximum staff:child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-17 mos	1:4	not specified
17 mos-5 yrs (full-day)	1:7	not specified
17 mos-5 yrs (part-day)	1:12	not specified
5-12 yrs	1:15	not specified

Staff qualification requirements

The centre director and 2/3 of the staff must have completed at least a training program in early childhood education OR two years experience, one course and a 35 hour workshop on child development and curriculum. All staff must have first-aid training and up-to-date Child Abuse Register checks.

Parent involvement

Parent meetings must be held at least four times in a year for full-day programs and twice a year for part-day programs.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Initial and ongoing inspections are conducted by provincial Early Childhood Development Services licensing staff. Regional staff are not required to have a background in early childhood education but are provided with early childhood education training annually.

Licenses can be issued for up to 24 months for part-day programs and up to12 months for full-day programs.

If a centre is not in compliance with The Day Care Act and Regulations, a license with conditions is issued for a specified time period. If the centre fails to meet the legislative requirements in this period, The Day Care Act and Regulation authorizes the Minister to cancel the license.

Health inspections are conducted by inspectors from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. Fire inspections are conducted by the Department of Environment and Labour.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

Regulation
Family child care providers are supervised by licensed agencies.

Maximum capacity
Up to six children of mixed ages including the provider's own preschool children, or up to eight school-age children including the provider's own school-age children.

Provider qualification requirements
Providers must be at least 18 years, be screened through the Child Abuse Register and have undergone a criminal record check by the RCMP or local police.

No early childhood training or experience is required by the province.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
A licensed family child care agency staff must have ECE qualifications as per the provincial regulations. The agency is responsible for recruiting, screening and selecting providers, and for approving and monitoring homes. Provincial staff conduct annual visits and evaluations of agencies to check for adherence to provincial guidelines for child care care homes.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents.

There is a two-step eligibility process. Parents must be employed, seeking employment, attending school or a training program, receiving medical treatment or have a special or emergency child care need. If the parent meets one of these criteria, an income test is applied.

Prior to 2000, only registered centres (non-profit centres operated by community-based organizations) and family child care agencies could enrol children receiving subsidies. In 2000, the province introduced portable subsidies, which are assigned to the child and not to the child care centre. They may be used in any licensed child care centre that provides full-day services and that has signed a letter of agreement with the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services. New subsidies allocated after 2000 are portable.

There is a minimum user fee of $2.25 per day. Programs may surcharge subsidized parents if costs are above the maximum subsidy rate; they must charge full fee parents at least the same as subsidized parents.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 2001)

	Turning point	Break-even point (estimated maximum)
1 parent, 1 child	$16,812	$24,540
2 parents, 2 children	17,712	34,092

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases.

Maximum subsidy by age of child (2001)

Infants to 17 mos	$14.95/day
Preschoolers	14.95/day
School-age	14.95/day

Note: In the previous version of this publication (2000), Nova Scotia subsidy rates were $17.20/day. This rate included the minimum user fee of $2.25/day. The rate has been adjusted to be comparable to those in other jurisdictions which do not include any parent portion.

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

For the purposes of funding, the category "child care centres" includes:

- Non-profit centres
  Operated by non-profit boards of directors and eligible for subsidized spaces, portable spaces, differential funding, salary enhancement grants, equipment grants and infrastructure grants.
- For-profit centres
  Operated by owners or managers and eligible for portable subsidized spaces and differential funding.

Recurring funding

Equipment grant
Available to non-profit, full-day licensed child care facilities. Up to $130/year/subsidized centre space may be used for the purchase of equipment only.

Infant incentive grant
Non-profit centres that enrol infants receive an additional $4.69/day/infant.

Special needs funding
Between $28 and $70/day/child with special needs intended to cover additional costs associated with integrating children with special needs. Eligibility is based on evidence of the child's disability. Developmental centres have a designated allotment of special needs spaces; other special needs spaces are allocated on an as-needed case by case basis. This grant depends on availability of funding.

Salary enhancement grant
Available to non-profit, licensed child care centres and licensed family child care agencies. The grant is $3.25/ day/space up to the maximum number of allocated subsidized spaces.

Infrastructure grant
The infrastructure grant was introduced in 1998 and is paid to all non-profit child care centres at the rate of $0.25 per day per licensed space up to 260 days maximum per year.

Family day care administrative grant
Available to licensed family day care agencies. The grant is either 10% of the approved per diem fee or based on the previous year's utilization of subsidized spaces of $1.65/ day/space.

Child Development Centre Grant
Annual grant provided to Child Development Centres (part-day enrichment programs which primarily enrol children from low-income families). The maximum grant available cannot exceed 50% of the centre's

approved operating budget and is based on the percentage of families whose income falls within provincial income guidelines.

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidy*	$8,562,514
One-time funding	
Start-up grants	17,430
Recurring funding	
Equipment/Infrastructure grant	509,398
Family day care administration grant	42,470
Child development centre grant	300,000
Salary enhancement grant	2,455,194
Special needs differential	1,005,272
Total	$12,892,278

**Note that the fee subsidy amount in the previous edition (2000) of this publication was incorrect.*

Other funding

Payments to parents through Employment Support $793,000
(funding provided to an average of 554 children/month)

Parents on social assistance who are involved in an employability program may receive payment to assist with child care costs. The parent may choose any form of licensed, unlicensed or relative care, except care provided by a spouse. Parents using licensed care are encouraged to apply for subsidy; the child care allowance may cover the difference between the subsidy rate and the fee charged by the centre. Parents may receive $400/family/month. The maximum for unregulated care is $4/hr/family.

Payments to providers/centres through Child Welfare $875,000
(of which $420,000 was spent on licensed care)

Children who are permanent wards, temporary wards or involved in a family support program may be eligible for child care funding. Care may be provided in licensed, unlicensed or relative care, except a spouse. Occasionally a home care agency may be used. If the care is unlicensed, the provider must undergo a police check and not be on the abuse register. If the child is a ward, the full cost of care is covered. If there is a supervision order or family support, the parent is encouraged to apply for subsidy. When using licensed care, the minimum parent fee and surcharge may be covered.

SALARIES (2001)

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full-time staff) (2001)

Directors	$13.32
Assistant directors	10.31
Teachers	7.87
Special needs teacher	9.22

Note: Information provided by provincial officials from the Employee and Wage Information Questionnaire.

Family child care

Information not available.

FEES (2001)

Median monthly parent fees for centre-based full-time care (2001)

Infants (Age 0-17 mos)	$565
Toddlers (Age 18 mos-36 mos)	490
Preschool (Age 3-5 yrs)	488
School-age (Age 5-12 yrs)	357

Note: Information provided by provincial officials from the Child Care Centre Information Questionnaire.

Average daily fee in family child care
Information not available.

ADMINISTRATION

The Early Childhood Development Services section of the Department of Community Services is responsible for the licensing and inspection of child care and preschool facilities, monitoring family child care agencies, administration of funding arrangements, program consultation for licensed programs, and developing policy. The Early Childhood Development Services section approves all new early childhood education and training programs and approves the training status of child care staff working in licensed child care facilities.

MUNICIPAL OR OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

There is no legislated municipal or other local government role.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Nova Scotia has developed a document that sets a direction for early childhood development initiatives in the province. *Our Children: Today's Investment, Tomorrow's Promise* can be found at www.gov.ns.ca/coms/files/ecd.asp .

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1966 Advocacy Committee on Day Care Services announced by the Minister of Public Welfare.

1967 Enactment of the *Day Nurseries Act*.

1968 Formation of the Preschool Association of Nova Scotia.

1970 Founding of the Nova Scotia Day Care Advocacy Association and the Nova Scotia Child Care Council.

1972 Appointment of the Provincial Day Care Advisory Committee, which introduced the day care subsidy program.

1977 A Task Force on Day Care Finance was struck with a mandate to review the per diem rate. This resulted in yearly increments in the subsidy rate and an annual review of the parent fee formula.

1980 Enactment of the revised *Day Care Act and Regulations*.

1983 Task Force on Day Care was announced. Its recommendations resulted in the introduction of annual equipment grants, additional subsidized child care spaces, special needs funding, and staff training standards along with staff training grants.

1987 Training specifications for staff working in child care came into effect.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

1988 Provincial child care plan to triple spending for program expansion and enhancements subject to federal-provincial cost-sharing agreement was developed.

1989 Child care spending was postponed.

1990 Child care staff in 40 centres across the province staged a one day walkout to protest poor wages.

The Minister announced a Round Table on Day Care with representation from the child care community to conduct a review of the province's child care system.

A salary enhancement grant was introduced.

1991 The Round Table on Day Care presented series of recommendations to the Minister including a recommendation to establish the Round Table as a permanent advisory body. This recommendation was adopted. Other recommendations called for the creation of 500 new subsidized spaces and the adoption of salary scales for child care workers.

1992 Funding increases were announced including 100 new subsidies and increases in subsidy rates.

1993 Per diem and subsidy rates to non-profit infant child care and staff training grants were increased.

1995 The Department of Community Services was restructured.

1993-96 Fifty additional subsidized spaces were allotted each year.

1998 All licensed child care facilities must ensure that staff and volunteers have up-to-date Child Abuse Register checks.

The per diem rate for a subsidized space and the infant differential increased by two percent.

Through the National Child Benefit, $2.2 million was allocated to a Healthy Child Development Initiative to enhance/support centre-based and family child care, rural child care and early intervention programs.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

2000 One hundred "portable" child care spaces were introduced, including five for children with special needs. These spaces follow the child and are not attached to a specific centre.

2001 There were amendments to the *Nova Scotia Day Care Act and Regulations* including several related to the provision of infant/toddler care.

2001 A funding review was conducted and the *Nova Scotia Child Care Funding Review* was released.

2001 Under the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Agreement on Early Childhood Development, Nova Scotia's strategy for Early Childhood Development was outlined in *Our Children: Today's Investment, Tomorrow's Promise*. In keeping with this, the Department of Community Services had undertaken a number of initiatives designed to improve the quality of and access to child care. Funding was designated to strengthen and stabilize the existing licensed child care programs, to support inclusion of more children with special needs, to improve salaries, and to provide professional development opportunities for early childhood educators.

2001 Six million of the $9.1 million in ECDI funding was allocated to child care. The breakdown is as follows:

- $4.5 million (child care stabilization grants) to assist in attracting and retaining quality staff
- $500,000 to support the inclusion of children with special needs in licensed child-care settings
- $1,000,000 for training.

2002 Another 50 portable subsidized spaces were announced.

KEY PROVINCIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Child Care Connection-NS
Suite 100, 1200 Tower Road
Halifax, NS B3H 4K6
Telephone: 902-423-8199 1-800-565-8199
Facsimile: 902-492-8106

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Nova Scotia Teachers' Union
3106 Dutch Village Road
Halifax, NS B3L 4L7
Telephone: 902-477-5621
Facsimile: 902-477-3517
Website: www.nstu.ca

NEW BRUNSWICK

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	22,200
3-5	26,600
6-12	63,300
Total 0-12	112,200

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	13,700
3-5	17,600
6-12	45,200
Total 0-12	76,500

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	1,940	65	40
5-9	1,685	60	15
10-14	1,575	35	30

Note: These 1996 data are the latest currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities (2001)

Age	Number of children with disabilities	Rate of children with disabilities (%)
0-4	470	1.3
5-9	1,760	4.1
10-14	2,100	4.4
Total 0-14 yrs	4,330	3.4

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2001 rounded estimate)

Age of youngest child	No. of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	13,000	66.8
3-5	12,000	74.4
6-15	35,000	78.6

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave
17 weeks.

Parental leave
(Child Care Leave) 37 weeks may be shared between the parents. The combined total of Maternity Leave and Child Care Leave taken by one or both parents cannot exceed 52 weeks.

Family-related leave
3 days per year.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 7,347
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 3,910

Note: Provincial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION
New Brunswick. Legislative Assembly. Education Act, 1997. c.E-1.12

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN
Department of Education.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten is delivered in public schools. Programs in New Brunswick for all five year olds operate for a full primary day (approximately 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.) in both French and English communities. There are 832.5 instructional hours per year.

Kindergarten is compulsory in New Brunswick. Parents may defer attendance until the next school year if the child is not five years old on or before September of the given year.

There are a number of independent schools that may choose to offer a kindergarten program; there is no specific legislation under which these schools fall. A parent must request an exemption from the Minister of Educa-tion for the child to attend such a school.

AGE ELIGIBILTY

Five years old by December 31.

CLASS SIZE

Provincial class size limits are specified within the Agreement between Board of Management and the New Brunswick Teachers' Federation. The maximum for kindergarten is 25 students. A kindergarten class that is combined with any other grade shall not exceed 20 students.

Average/mean class size
Anglophone sector: 20.6
Francophone sector: 18.3
All province: 19.9

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The *Education Act* mandates the inclusion of exceptional pupils. A policy on Special Education is under development. Extra supports include possible provision of

physical accommodations as ramps or elevators; assertive technology when needed; development of special Educa-tion Plans; and teacher assistants and school intervention workers.

Some children's physical needs or medical fragility necessitate the provision of a teacher's assistant.

In 2000/2001, approximately 509 students with identified special needs were in the regular kindergarten program.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT (2000-2001)

Information not available.

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

B.Ed. and a New Brunswick Teacher's Certificate are required. There are no specific requirements for kindergarten teachers; however, according to provincial officials, school districts are likely to give preference when hiring to a teacher who has some early childhood courses.

Training assistants must have completed Grade 12. The Department of Education is working with the community college to establish a mandatory two year training program for teacher assistants.

CURRICULUM

There is a provincial curriculum, Kindergarten Curricu-lum, revised in 1999. It addresses cognitive, social, emotional and physical development. It is student-centred and advocates developmentally appropriate practices within an activity-based approach to learning. The curriculum identifies specific curricular outcomes across a variety of subject areas.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

Average spending per kindergarten student
Information is not available.

Total spending on kindergarten
Information is not available.

SPECIAL FEATURES

The Department of Education has a one-time ESL grant of $600. The grant may be used toward the provision of tutoring in English. Sixty-four students applied for the ESL grant in 2001/2002.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

New Brunswick. Legislative Assembly. *Family Services Act*. 1980.

New Brunswick. Legislative Assembly. *Family Services Act and Day Care Regulations*, 83-85, as amended.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Diane Lutes
Provincial Day Care Services Consultant
Early Childhood and School-Based Services
Program Development and Monitoring
Department of Family and Community Services
P.O. Box 6000, 551 King Street, 2nd floor
Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 1E7
Telephone: (506) 869-6878
Facsimile: (506) 856-2869

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children of mixed ages, 0-12 permitted: 5
Maximum if all are 2-5 years: 4
Maximum if all are school-age: 8
No more than two infants are allowed. Figure includes the caregiver's own children under 12 years.

Nursery schools
Nursery schools are only licensed upon request or complaint; most are not regulated.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Day care centres
Part-time or full-time care for less than 24 hours/day for four or more infants; six or more preschoolers; 10 or more children aged 6-12 years; or seven or more children from birth to 12 years.

Part-day centres (nursery schools) are only licensed upon request or complaint.

School-age child care centres
Centre-based care outside school hours for school-age children up to 12 years.

Community day care homes
Care in a private home for no more than three children under two years, or five children aged 2-5 years, or nine children aged six years and over, or six children of a combination of ages from birth to 12 years, including the caregiver's own children under 12 years.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Children with special needs are identified through the Early Childhood Initiatives. To be identified as special needs, the child must fall into one of three categories: a) the child has a confirmed diagnosis at birth; b) the child has developmental issues after birth; c) there are family risk factors.

Special needs children can attend an Integrated Day Care Centre which receives extra funding. Facilities providing services to children may receive an average of $3,000/ year/child for children ages 2-5. The maximum payment for a child with high needs is $5,000/year, primarily to provide a support worker.

There are no training requirements for staff in Integrated Day Care.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

New Brunswick licenses child care centres on-reserve upon request from the First Nations community. There are two on-reserve centres currently licensed by the Department. One other received its initial approval from the Department but ongoing monitoring and renewal functions are managed locally. Licensed centres on-reserve are not eligible for provincial funding and parents are not eligible for fee subsidy. Some Head Start programs receive funding through an agreement between the First Nations of New Brunswick and the federal department of Health, and Indian and Northern Development. (These programs are not part of the Health Canada Aboriginal Head Start Program.)

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)

Centre-based	10,936
Family child care	150
Total regulated spaces	11,086

New Brunswick does not keep licensing information by age of child. However, the Quality Improvement Funding Support provides operating funds to centres based on the ages of children enrolled. These figures represent 93.5% of children enrolled in regulated child care centres. The age breakdown of children enrolled in centres receiving the Quality Improvement Funding are as follows:

Infants	653
Preschool	
– Full-time	4,675
– Part-time	492
– School-age	4,610

Children with special needs in regulated child care (March 2001) 513

This figure represents the number of children enrolled in Inte-grated Day Care Services.

Children receiving subsidies (2001) 2,545

Subsidized children as a proportion of total regulated spaces (2001) 23 %

Sponsorship of full-time regulated centre spaces

Information not available.

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum centre size 60 spaces

Child care programs are approved for a maximum of 60 spaces; however, those approved before 1983 that had more than 60 spaces were grandparented.

Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
Less than 2 yrs	1:3	9
2-3 yrs	1:5	10
3-4 yrs	1:7	14
4-5 yrs	1:10	20
5-6 yrs	1:12	24
6-12 yrs	1:15	30

Staff qualification requirements

No early childhood education training or experience is required.

Effective April 1, 2003, the Director or his/her designate OR one in four staff will be required to have one year community college training in child care or its equivalent.

Staff must be at least 16 years old. Staff 16-19 years old are required to be supervised by a primary staff member who must be at least 19 years old. All staff must have first-aid training.

Parent involvement

Non-profit centres are required to be managed by a board of directors whose members include at least two parents of enrolled children. There is no requirement for parent involvement.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Nine regional coordinator positions are responsible for monitoring compliance with the regulations. Regional coordinators must have an ECE credential or equivalent. Child care centres receive one full-day inspection and up to three unannounced visits per year. Centres determined to be in noncompliance with standards are provided with a time frame in which to comply. Where the child care care service is considered necessary and where the Minister is satisfied that the requirements will be met within the designated period of time, the regulation permits the issuance of a temporary approval for a period not to exceed six months.

The `Family Services Act` provides the Minister with the authority to investigate, recommend changes, suspend the operation or terminate the approval of a child care facility. While the functions of approval and monitoring are delegated to regional offices of the department, the authority for openings and closures has not been delegated. Regions recommend and approvals are granted or terminated by the Minister.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE (COMMUNITY DAY CARE HOMES)

Regulation

Individually licensed.

Maximum capacity

Infants: 3
2-5 yrs: 5
6 yrs and over: 9
Combination of ages: 6

The capacity maximums include the provider's own children under 12 years.

Provider qualification requirements

No early childhood education training or experience is required. Providers must be at least 19 years old and have first aid training. Training requirement implemented in April 1, 2003 will not be applied to operators of community day care homes.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

The nine regional coordinator positions are responsible for licensing and monitoring community day care homes. Community day care home providers are issued an initial license and must make an annual request

for renewal. The regional coordinators spot-check community day care homes to ensure compliance with the regulations.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents through the Day Care Assistance Program.

Eligibility is determined through a needs and income test which is administered by the Department of Family and Community Services.

The provincial fee subsidy budget is capped. Allocation of spaces is based on geography, program, and/or child/ group-at-risk criteria assessment.

Subsidies are payable to any regulated non-profit or for-profit child care centre or community day care home.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 2001)

	Turning point	Break-even point
All family sizes	$15,000	—
1 child, 2 yrs and older	15,000	$23,100
1 child, under 2 years	15,000	24,180

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases.

Maximum subsidy by age of child (2001)

0-2 yrs	$18.50/day
2-6 yrs	16.50/day
6-12 yrs	9.25/day

There is no minimum user fee. Programs may surcharge subsidized parents. The same subsidy rate applies to centres and community day homes.

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Recurring funding

Quality Improvement Support Program (see NEW DEVELOPMENTS)
$650/year/infant space
$260/year/full-time preschool space
$100/year/part-time preschool space
$130/year/school-age space
$300/year/community day home

Note: A minimum of 60% of these funds must go to wages and benefits, either as an increase to the hourly wage or as a bonus.

Special needs funding
Special needs funding is provided to Integrated Day Care Centres under Early Childhood Initiatives.

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATION FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

One time funding None

Fee subsidies $6,500,000

Recurring funding

Quality Improvement Funding	
Support Program	2,700,000
Special needs funding	2,623,000
Total	$11,823,000

Other funding

Alternative Child Care	$1,000,000

The Alternative Child Care Program provides subsidies for unregulated care for parents who are in school, working and who need care on weekends or evenings, or where no regulated child care is available. The same rates are paid as for regulated care. Payment is made to the caregiver who may not be a member of the child's immediate family.

SALARIES

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full- and part-time staff combined), (2001)

Assistant teachers	not available
Teachers	$6.87
Teacher-directors	9.34
Administrative directors	12.37

Source: Figures from centre applications for Quality Improve-ment Funding Support prior to its 2001-2002 distribution.

Family child care
Information not available.

FEES

Median monthly parent fees for full-time centre-based care (September 2001)

Infants (Age 0-17 mos)	$21.90/day ($481.80/month)
Toddlers (Age 18 mos-3 yrs)	$19.00/day ($418.00/month)
Preschool (Age 3-5.11 yrs)	$19.00/day ($418.00/month)
School-age	$10.30/day ($226.60/month)

Source: Figures provided by the Department of Family and Community Services from information collected on centre applications for Quality Improvement Funding Support.

Average daily fee in family child care
Information not available.

ADMINISTRATION

The Early Childhood and School-Based Services Branch under the Program Development and Monitoring Division of the Department of Family and Community Services is responsible for policy and program development of the Day Care Services Program.

Authority for the approval and monitoring of child care programs is delegated to regional offices of the Depart-ment of Family and Community Services.

The Department of Family and Community Services also administers the Day Care Assistance (subsidy) Program.

MUNICIPAL OR OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

There is no legislated municipal or other local government role.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

There is no provincial plan for the development of child care.

The Department of Family and Community Services has lead responsibility for the initiatives of the Early Childhood Development Agenda.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1970s Child care centres were established under federal Local Initiatives Project grants.

1974 Enactment of the *Day Care Act* which included 40 staffing, health and safety, and administration regulations. It also provided for a fee subsidy program for eligible low-income families. The Act authorized the Department of Social Services to license child care centres and administer fee subsidies.

1980 *The Family Service Act* included child care services, viewing them as a child development service.

1982 One year training program for child care workers was established.

1983 *Day Care Regulation 83-85* was enacted and the Day Care Facilities Standards were developed.

1989 A Minister of State for Childhood Services and the Office for Childhood Services were established (these were later abolished).

1991 *Playing for Keeps: Improving Our Children's Quality of Life*, a policy framework for children's services in New Brunswick was released.

For the first time, public kindergarten programs were introduced as part of the school system.

1992 In September, the provincial government announced the Early Childhood Initiatives, designed to provide targeted services to foster the healthy growth and development of priority children and their families and to enhance family self-sufficiency.

The MicMac-Maliseet Child Care Council was established to address First Nations centre-based child care quality issues.

1993 The provincial government established a working group on child care to study the issues of staff training, wage enhancement, and standards. The provincial government initiated a review process and established a Child Care Review Committee with representation from the Early Childhood Coalition/Petite Enfance, Garde de Jour, NB Day Care Association, Departments of Health and Community Services, Income Assistance, Advanced Education and Labour, and the Executive Council.

1994 In March, *A Policy Framework for Child Care Services in New Brunswick* was released. The report outlined three areas of discussion — quality, affordability and accessibility — and provided an agenda for change in child care service delivery.

New Directions: Child Care Reforms was released in response to the report of the Child Care Review Committee. It outlined changes to regulated child care. It identified four directions for change: "improving

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

quality; addressing the lack of affordable, accessible child care as a barrier to employment; forging partnerships for better child care; and monitoring the implementation of the changes." The province established several working groups to make recommendations.

Operating and professional development grants to child care centres were reduced to 50%. Workplace start-up grants were eliminated.

Quality issues were to be addressed through promotion of parent awareness, strengthening regulations, implementing minimum training requirements, and enhancing community college early childhood training. New pamphlets and bookmarks for parents were developed and the legislation was reviewed. A new early childhood curriculum was launched.

With regard to "improving affordability", recurring grants were eliminated and fees increased. Subsidy eligibility levels went up (from $11,000 annual family income to $15,000 annual family income). Subsidy rates were increased. The number of children accessing subsidy increased from 1,363 in 1995 to 1,568 in 1998. A majority of the children accessing subsidies were welfare recipients. There was a 30% vacancy rate in centres.

1994 Student parents were required to take subsidies as part of student loans and repay them.

1998 In August, the province increased the subsidy rates through the Day Care Assistance Program. Eligible parents who did not have access to regulated child care, including those who work evening or weekend shifts could now also receive financial assistance for unregulated care through the Alternative Child Care Program. These subsidies are paid at the same rate as those through the Day Care Assistance Program.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1998 A national study of wages, working conditions and quality, *You Bet I Care!*, found that — based on a sample of full-time centres for children 0-6 years and regulated family child care — New Brunswick scored 4.0 on the ECERS-R (preschool rooms), 3.8 on the ITERS (infant rooms), and 4.2 on the FDCRS (family child care). (See Table 25 for elaboration.)

2001 The provincial government announced its new initiative, *Greater Opportunities for New Brunswick Children: An Early Childhood Development Agenda*. This initiative was New Brunswick's response to the announcement of September 2000, in which First Ministers agreed that funding would be allocated to provinces, "so that young children can fulfill their potential to be healthy, safe and secure, ready to learn, socially engaged and responsible".

$3 million of the $7.3 million in ECDI funding was allocated to child care for:

- Enhanced Child Day Care Services. $3 million intended to:
  - improve working conditions for staff
  - improve the overall quality of service delivery
  - increase availability and quality of infant care
  - improve training and professional development for child care workers
- Enhancements to the Early Childhood Initiatives Pro-gram to increase accessibility to Early Intervention and Integrated Day Care Services: $1.4 million.

The Enhanced Child Day Care Services project has two components, with both having the overall goal of improving the quality of child care services in New Brunswick: 1) the Training Needs Assessment of New Brunswick's Child Care Sector and 2) the Quality Improvement Funding Support.

The objectives of the Training Needs Assessment are: 1) to conduct a province-wide needs assessment of child care workers currently employed in the child day care sector; 2) to explore training delivery models that respond to the identified needs; and 3) to establish equivalency to the one year community college training of the New Brunswick community college system.

The objective of the Quality Improvement Funding Support is to provide child care facilities with funding support to assist them in improving their quality of service delivery. Facilities must use a minimum of 60% of the funds they receive to improve the working conditions of staff who work directly with children, and may use up to 40% for the purchase of equipment and materials for the children's programs.

KEY PROVINCIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

In May 2001, a new child care association was officially formed.

Early Childhood Care and Education New Brunswick
Soins et Education à la Petite Enfance du Nouveau-Brunswick
80 University Avenue
Miramichi, NB E1N 3W4
Telephone: 506-773-9778
Facsimile: 506-778-6001
Email: edcc@nb.aibn.com

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Association des Enseignantes et des Enseignants Francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick
650, rue Montgomery
C.P. 712
Fredericton, NB E3B 5B4
Telephone: 506-452-8921
Facsimile: 506-453-9795
Email: aefnb@nbnet.nb.ca
Website: www.aefnb.nb.ca

New Brunswick Teachers' Association
650 Montgomery St.
P.O. Box 752
Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6
Telephone: 506-452-8921
Facsimile: 506-453-9795
Email: nbtainfo@nbnet.nb.ca
Website: www.nbta.ca

New Brunswick Teachers' Federation
Federation des Enseignants du Nouveau-Brunswick
650 Montgomery St.
P.O. Box 1535
Fredericton, NB E3B 5G2
Telephone: 506-452-1736
Facsimile: 506-453-9795
Website: www.nbtf-fenb.nb.ca

Québec

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 rounded estimate)

0-2 yrs	225,000
3-5	234,700
6-12	655,500
Total 0-12	1,115,200

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (2001 rounded estimate)

0-2 yrs	144,000
3-5	160,100
6-12	469,000
Total 0-12	773,100

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	11,420	2,070	1,545
5-9	10,655	1,845	1,370
10-14	10,020	1,865	1,040

Note: These 1996 data are the most recent currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities (2001)

Age	Number of children with disabilities	Rate of children with disabilities (%)
0-4	4,630	1.3
5-9	11,300	2.5
10-14	10,960	2.4
Total 0-14 yrs	26,890	2.1

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2001 rounded estimate)

Age of youngest child	No. of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	133,000	67.3
3-5	108,000	75.1
6-15	340,000	79.1

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave
18 weeks. An additional six weeks is available to the birth mother if she is unable to return to work for health reasons related to the birth or pregnancy.

Parental leave
Both the the father and the mother of a newborn and the person who adopts a child that has not yet reached school age are entitled to a parental leave without pay of not more than 52 consecutive weeks.

Family-related leave
5 days per year.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 72,007
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 40,870

Note: Provincial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION

Québec. National Assembly. *Education Act*. R.S.Q, c.I-13.3

Québec. National Assembly. *An Act to amend the Education Act concerning the Conseil scolaire de l'île de Montréal*, Bill 41 (2001, c. 30).

Québec. National Assembly. *An Act to amend the Education Act*, Bill 35. (2001, c. 46).

Québec. National Assembly. *Education Act for Cree, Inuit and Naskapi Native Persons*. R.S.Q., c. I-14.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN
Ministère de l'Education du Québec (MEQ)

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

MATERNELLE

Maternelle for five year olds is delivered on a full time basis in public and private schools (both English and French). There are 23.5 hours/week for 36 weeks or 846 hours a year.

Kindergarten is not compulsory in Québec nor is access legislated.

There are two programs for four year olds:

Pré-maternelle
This pre-kindergarten program varies from 9.15 hours/ week for 36 weeks (or 332 hours) to 11.45 hours/week for 36 weeks (or 412 hours). It may be four half-days or five half-days. Some programs include parent participation.

Initially, pré-maternelle was developed for inner-city children (although this is no longer their sole clientele). Most pré-maternelles are in Montreal (4,066 out of 6,932 children enrolled). Pré-maternelles were developed prior to the new family policy and child care expansion. There is no new development of pré-maternelles; those existing will be maintained.

Passe-partout
These programs, exclusively for four year olds, were developed for low-income children living mostly in rural Québec. Passe-partout consists of a total of 24 sessions, 16 with the children only and eight with the parents.

Like the pré-maternelle programs, with the new family policy and child care expansion, passe-partout is no longer being developed but only maintained.

AGE ELIGIBILTIY

Five years old by September 30.
Four years old by September 30.

CLASS SIZE

There are provincial class size limits:
- Five year olds: Maximum 20 (defined in the collective agreement), average 18;
- Four year olds: Maximum 18 (defined in the collective agreement), average 15;
- Multi-age groups: Maximum 15 children per group. (According to the collective agreement, the same teacher can't have more than 20 children under her responsibility).

Average/mean class sizes
Five year olds: 18
Four year olds: 15

No provincial policies regarding teaching assistants are available. No assistants are provided, although there are professional services under the component "services complementaires" such as psychologists, speech therapists, etc.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a Québec policy — Politique d'adaptation scolaire — that addresses inclusion issues, specialised services and corresponding budgets. School boards can adopt additional policies that expand on it but cannot restrict it.

About 50% of children with special needs are included in regular classes. Others either attend special classes in schools or attend specialised schools (for instance, schools for the deaf).

For four year olds with special needs (handicaps as defined in Québec), the school board has the obligation to deliver a kindergarten program if the parents so request.

In 2001, 778 children out of 1,552 identified with special needs were included in regular kindergarten classes.

There are additional budgets tied to inclusion of children with special needs.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

Five year olds: 77, 500
(Information is not available from the Québec government. See source below.)

Four year olds
– Pre-K: 6,932
– Passe-partout: 8,879

Note: Estimate of enrollment of five year olds from data in the Education Quarterly Review (2002), Vol. 8 (3).

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Four year degree — Education prescolaire et primaire. There are mandatory practica in kindergarten and elementary.

Information for training requirements of assistants is not available.

CURRICULUM

There is a provincial kindergarten curriculum. It comes under the reform that was implemented in 1997. The curriculum for four and five year olds is the same.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Total provincial spending on kindergarten
Information not available.

Average spending per five year old kindergarten student
$1,694 (special needs $3,300)

Note: This may not represent the total average spending but was the only figure that provincial officials were able to provide.

Average spending per four year old in pré-maternelle
$1,879 (special need $ 3,700)

Spending per student in Passe-partout
$900

Five year old children attending programs paid for by the MEQ but delivered in specialised establishments
$4,100

SPECIAL FEATURES

Allophone children have access to Services particuliers under the regulation. The policy and formula for this is established at the Québec level. Schools boards receive and distribute budgets for these services to schools.

For inner-city children, there is a reduction in ratio in Grades 1 and 2 based on Statistics Canada data for the area.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

Québec. *An Act Respecting the Ministère de la Famille et de l'Enfance and amending the Act Respecting Child Day Care Centres*. Bill 145, 15 June 2000

Québec. *Public Education Act. Regulation on School-Age Child Care. L.R.Q.*, c. 1-133, a.454.1; 1998, c.58, a51; 1992, c.96, a.132. D1316.98

Québec. *An Act Respecting Child Care Centres and Child Care Services R.S.Q.* chapter S-4.1, R.2., as amended 24 November 1999

Québec. *Regulation Respecting Day Care Centres*, 4.1, r.2., as amended September 1, 1997. *Regulation Respecting Home Day Care Agencies and Home Day Care*. S-4.1, r.0.001 as amended amended 24 November 1999

Québec. *Regulation Respecting Child Care Centres*. C-8.2, r.2, as amended April 1, 1998. *Regulation Respecting Reduced Contributions*. C-8.2, r.3, as amended amended 24 November 1999.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Pierre Roy
Sous-ministre
Ministère de la Famille et de l'Enfance
600, rue Fullum, 8ème étage
Montréal, Québec H2K 4S7
Telephone: (514) 873-2323 or (1-800) 363-0310
Facsimile: (514) 873-4250
Website: www.mfe.gouv.gc.ca
E-mail: famille@mfe.gouv.qc.ca

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted 6
Figure includes the caregiver's own children.

Jardins d'enfants (nursery schools)
Programs for a minimum of seven children aged 2-5 years on a regular basis for up to four hours/day.

Haltes-garderies (stop-over centres)
Programs for a minimum of seven children on a casual, drop-in basis for up to 24 consecutive hours.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Centre de la petite enfance (CPE)
A CPE provides educational child care in both centres and private homes primarily for children from 0-4 years old. Seven or more children may be cared for in centre-based programs for periods not exceeding 48 consecutive hours.

Family child care is provided in a private residence by an individual for up to six children including the provider's own children for periods which may exceed 24 consecutive hours; no more than two children may

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

be under 18 months. If the provider is assisted by another adult, nine children are permitted with no more than four children under 18 months.

A CPE may have up to 350 children — up to 240 in child care centres with 80 in each individual facility and up to 250 in its family child care component.

CPEs must be non-profit with a board of directors having a minimum of seven persons, at least 2/3 of whom (who are neither staff nor family child care providers) must be parent-users of the program.

Garderie (day care centre)
An establishment that provides child care in a facility where seven or more children receive care on a regular basis for periods not exceeding 24 consecutive hours that is not operated by a CPE. This includes for-profit operations and those operated by a non-profit group that does not have a majority of parents on the board of directors (e.g. church run centres).

Milieu scolaire (school-age child care)
Programs provided by a school board for children attending kindergarten or elementary grades. Under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Québec has a policy encouraging inclusion of children with special needs in regular programs. For a child who has a diagnosed disability or who meets the ministry definition of a "disabled" child, a one-time grant of $2,000 and an additional $21/day/child on top of the regular operating grants is available. Admission is at the discretion of the CPE.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Québec regulates child care on-reserve. In 2001, there were 25 child care centres, three family child care services and two garderies on-reserve. Other centres were under construction. On-reserve child care is funded through agreements between First Nations communities and federal and provincial governments. The Québec Native Women's Association, Band Councils, the Cree and the Kativik regional administrations play key roles in First Nations child care in Québec.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)

Centre-based	Child care centres (CPE)	Day care centres (garderie)
Infant/toddler	5,224	1, 684
Preschooler (18 mos-4 yrs)	46,346	24,017
Total	51,570	25,701
Family child care	55,979	
Total spaces regulated by Ministère de la Famille et l'Enfance (MFE)		133,250
School-age child care	101,655	

Note: School-age child care for children aged 5-12 is the responsibility of the Ministry of Education (MEQ).

Total spaces regulated by MFE and under the aegis of MEQ 234,905

Children with special needs in regulated child care (2001)
Information not available.

Sponsorship of centred-based spaces (2001)

Non-profit (CPE)	51,570
School-board operated school-age spaces	101,655
Total non-profit spaces	153, 255
For-profit and other non-CPE (garderies)	25,701

Note: The majority of garderies are for-profit.

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES (CENTRES UNDER CPES AND GARDERIES)

Maximum facility size
80 spaces

Maximum staff:child ratios

Age	Staff:child ratios
0-18 mos	1:5
18 mos-3 yrs	1:8
4-5 yrs	1:10
6-12 yrs	1:20

Staff qualification requirements
Effective September 1999, two-thirds of staff in CPE centres must have a college diploma or university degree in ECE. Centres operated by CPEs that have been modified to expand capacity have until the third anniversary of the expansion to comply with the new training requirements. Until that time, staff qualifications in these centres must conform to the previous regulations requiring 1/3 of staff to have the training outlined above.

In garderies (for-profit centres and non-profit centres not operated by a CPE), 1/3 of staff must have a college diploma or university degree in ECE.

Parent involvement
CPE board structure requires 2/3 of board membership to be parents.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Ministère de la Famille et l'Enfance (MFE) issues permits (licenses) for up to a three year period. MFE inspectors may visit any licensed operation to monitor its compliance with regulations.

There is no regulatory requirement for the frequency of visits by inspectors. Inspectors are not required to have a degree, diploma, or training in early childhood education.

Québec does not issue conditional or provisional licenses. If a centre is found to be in noncompliance with legislative requirements but there is no immediate danger to the health or well-being of the children, MFE informs the centre's board (in writing) that the program is in noncompliance with a specific regulation(s) and requests rectification. A follow-up check is done by an inspector when sufficient time is deemed to have passed. Repeated instances of noncompliance which do not pose an immediate threat may result in a court hearing.

The operator may appeal the loss of license (or the refusal by MFE to renew a license) to a tribunal set up by MFE to hear the case and may be represented by a lawyer. If not satisfied with the tribunal's ruling, the operator may appeal a decision to the Commission des affaires sociales. Its decision is binding.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

Family child care providers are supervised by a CPE.

Maximum capacity
Up to six children including the provider's children under nine years; no more than two children may be under 18 months. If the provider is assisted by another adult, they may care for nine children, including both providers' own children, with not more than four children being under 18 months.

Provider qualification requirements

Family child care worker
Staff duties include approving/recognizing people responsible for family child care, providing technical and professional support to such persons, and exercising control and supervision for such persons. Staff responsible for supervision must have at least three years of full-time experience working with children or supervising or directing people.

Family child care provider
Family child care providers must hold a first-aid certificate and complete a training program lasting at least 45 hours pertaining to child development, health, safety and diet issues, and organization and leadership in a "life environment". Many CPEs provide training for providers.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Family child care workers are required to do on-site home visits. The CPE is responsible for ensuring that providers meet the regulations. MFE monitors records of home visits and activity reports.

FUNDING

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

One-time funding

Development grants
- Grant for professional services incurred by the project manager in setting up a facility: $8,000.
- Start-up grant for establishing a family child care component of a CPE: $1,500 for the first 10 spaces, plus $100 per additional space up to $8,000.

Grants for purchase of a property or construction of a facility
- the lesser of 40% of the actual cost, or $3,650 per space for the first 29 spaces, plus $2,000 per additional space, plus $80 per space for the family child care component.
- for a tenant child care centre wishing to purchase the building to avoid eviction from the premises, the grant is limited to the lesser of 40% of the actual costs, or $73,000.

Grants for enlarging a facility
To help enlarge owned child care facilities to increase the maximum number of children, if it involves increasing the ground area of the building or the surface of the existing facility.
- the lesser of the actual costs, or $2,300 per new space, plus $80 per space for the family child care component when the administrative premises are housed in the facility.

Grants for refitting a facility
To help increase the maximum number of spaces or add administrative premises for the home child care component (this does not include increasing the ground area, or making structural changes to the building in owned or leased premises).
- the lesser of the actual costs or $1,250 per new space, plus $80 per space for the family child care component ($40/space in leased facilities) when the administrative premises are housed in the facility.

Compliance grants
To help renovate a leased or owned facility to comply with the requirements of a law or a regulation other than the Act Respecting Childcare Centres and Childcare Services.

– the lesser of the actual cost or $10,000 for the first seven spaces, plus $275 per additional space, and $80 per space for the family child care component ($40/space in leased facilities) when the administrative premises are housed in the facility.

Grants to acquire the assets of a day care centre
To purchase tangible assets of:
– an owned day care centre: 40% of the certified actual costs or $3,650 per space for the first 29 spaces, plus $2,000 per additional space;
– a tenant day care centre: the lesser of the certified actual costs or $34,000 for the first seven spaces, plus $1,200 per additional space.

To purchase intangible assets of a day care centre:
– $750 per space.

Allowance for early intervention in a disadvantaged area
A one-time allowance to establish the curriculum Jouer, c'est magique in child care facilities or family child care homes where at least 10% of the children have parents who are exempt from the parental contribution of $5/day (low income) to adapt the program activities, for staff training and professional development, for collaboration with other social services professionals:
– up to $10,000 per child care facility;
– up to $20,000 per organization.

Recurring funding
MFE provides funding to CPEs through several basic and supplementary mechanisms that are calculated according to three financing parameters:
– annualized spaces on the license
– annual occupancy, and
– the annual occupancy rate.

These funds are paid to the CPEs on a monthly basis.

Child care centres basic allowance

- Expenses related to the premises
  – the lesser of the actual expenses established by MFE or an amount equal to $36,000 for the first 30 annualized spaces, plus $1,200 for each of the next 30 annualized spaces, and $1,000 for each annualized space beyond 60.
- Overhead costs
  – $1,850 for each of the first 60 annualized spaces, plus $850 for each additional space beyond 60, for a minimum of $51,000.
- Performance
  – with the exception of new or expanded facilities, a deduction is made from the grant if the annual occupancy rate falls below 85% in some parts of the province and 80% in others.
- Child care and educational expenses
  – $46.15/day for children 17 months and younger;
  – $29.95/day for children 18-59 months ..

Family child care basic allowance

- Expenses related to the premises (private home)
  – the lesser of the actual expenses established by MFE or an amount equal to $250 for each of the first 50 annualized spaces, and $140 for each additional space.
- Overhead costs
  – $1,450 for each of the first 50 spaces, plus $860 for each of the next 100 spaces and $790 for each additional space beyond 150.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

- Performance
  - with the exception of new or expanded family child care services, a deduction is made from the grant if the annual occupany rate falls below 80% in some parts of the province and 75% in others.
- Child care and educational expenses
  - a maximum of $25.40/day for children aged 59 months and younger, and an infant supplement of $9.00/day for children 17 months and younger.

Special needs school-age grants
From the Ministry of Education, school-age child care services receive a flat rate per child with special needs of $1,000 for each child attending the service on a regular basis, and $500 for each child that attends on an irregular basis.

The basic allowance for child care centres and family child care equals the allowable expenses less the parental reduced contribution (PRC).

Supplementary allowances
Allowance for exemption from payment of the contribution (EPC).
- an allowance to make up for the parental contribution exemption of parents who receive income security and are entitled to 23H hours/week of child care at no fee (or more on the recommendation of an authorized organization).

Allowance for a facility in a disadvantaged area
To help the facility meet the additional costs of enrolling children from a disadvantaged are equal to:
- 2.5% of the basic operating allowance when the proportion of EPC days is between 5% and 10%;
- 5% of the basic operating allowance when the proportion of EPC days is between 10% and 20%;
- 7.5% of the basic operating allowance when the proportion of EPC days is greater than 20%.

Allowances for places at the reduced contribution offered to school-age children (PRCS)
To support day care institutions who serve kindergarten or elementary school children who cannot receive any other child care service at their school:
- $4.10/day for each school day;
- $17.15/day for each pedagogical day, for a maximum of 20 days per child.

Allowances for the integration of a child with a disability
To facilitate the integration of a child with a disability aged 59 months or younger, for a maximum of nine children in a facility, providing that number does not exceed 20% of licensed spaces or one child per home child care provider:
- a lump sum of $2,200 per child, of which $1,800 is for equipment or improving the set-up to meet the child's needs;
- $25/day of occupancy.

Specific allowances
- Allowance for group insurance plans and maternity leaves;
- Allowances for special projects, northern or Aboriginal communities.

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidies	not applicable

(See below for information on fee reductions though the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale.)

One time funding

Development and investment	$25,000,000

Recurring funding

Funding to CPEs	847,254,000
Funding to day care centres (garderies)	148,084,600
Grants for special pilot projects	800,000
Financial aid	100,000
Other transfer payments	200,000
Total child care expenditure for children 0-4 yrs in MFE	$1,021,438,600
Estimated expenditure on school-age child care (by MEQ)	70,989,051
Total expenditure on regulated child care	$1,092,427,651

Other funding

Grants to child care organizations	$3,000,000

Note: In addition, $30.9 million was spent by the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale to provide further fee reductions to low income working parents. See apport program in recent developments, 2000.

SALARIES

Estimated mean hourly wage by job category (2001)

Administrators	$22.75
Educational consultants	17.04
Trained child care teachers	16.24
Untrained child care staff	13.60

Note: These figures were calculated by the authors using an MFE survey in 1999 and increasing them by 30% in accordance with the $152 million four year wage initiative to raise salaries by 40% by 2003.

Family child care

Information not available.

ADMINISTRATION

The Ministère de la Famille et de l'Enfance is responsible for the setting of standards and regulations, administration of the legislation, administration of funding, and coordination of the child care system across the province.

Le Ministère de l'Education is responsible for school-age child care services. However, when a school cannot provide child care services, MFE pays for children to attend a CPE. School-age children are not eligible for a $5/day place during the summer.

MUNICIPAL AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

Municipalities may no longer hold licenses to operate child care facilities. School boards provide school-age child care for children attending kindergarten and elementary school.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Québec uses a province-wide planning process. Les conseils régionaux de développement, with representation from municipalities, social services, and child care organizations, set priorities by region. They develop five year plans based on population and labour force statistics, funding and relative regional equity.

The Québec government has historically had a policy that strongly favours the development of child care services that are controlled by user-parents. MFE licenses (permits) new child care services as the requirements of the Act and Regulations are met.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1887 Montréal Day Nursery, an Anglophone child care centre, was established by charitable organizations.

1942 Québec signed the *Dominion-Provincial War Time Agreement* with the federal government. This enabled cost-sharing for child care centres attended by children whose mothers were employed in industries essential to the war effort. Six centres were established in Montréal.

1945 Government financing for child care centres ended and the wartime centres closed.

1950s Growth of for-profit child care centres.

1969 The provincial government began to license existing child care centres and financed selected child care centres located in low-income districts of Montréal.

1972 A system of tax credits for mothers using child care was established.

1974 The provincial government adopted the Bacon Plan, a policy paper on child care issues which recognized the existing network of child care centres and recommended financial aid to low income parents.

1979 An *Act Respecting Child Day Care* created l'Office des services de garde à l'enfance to coordinate and promote development of child care services. Operating grants were introduced.

1980 L'Office took on full responsibility for regulated child care services.

1983 *Regulations* for the Act were adopted.

1988 L'Office issued a policy statement on child care services which announced a five year expansion plan to double the number of licensed child care spaces by 1994. The paper also identified target programs, such as infant child care and workplace child care, and extended some grants to for-profit centres.

1989 The child care community organized a one day walkout in protest against some aspects of the 1988 policy statement.

In response, the government announced enhanced parent fee subsidies, the provision of assistance for child care training and staff development, and increased assistance to facilitate the integration of children with handicaps.

1992 A regulation was adopted which fixed the number of spaces eligible for funding on an annual basis.

Unionized child care staff took part in a one day walkout protesting poor wages.

1993 New regulations were adopted relating to parent fee subsidies.

Summer child care programs which were not regulated became eligible to receive funding from l'Office.

Concertaction inter-régionale des garderies du Québec organized a province-wide demonstration. The demands were for a freeze on parent fees and $1.5 million for wage enhancement for the non-profit sector in the short term.

1994 A new regulation concerning agencies and family child care was issued. This regulation addressed: permits, staff qualifications of the agency, qualification for the person responsible for family care, security, hygiene, heating and minimal standards.

Public consultation was held to consider solutions for financing child care. A new formula was adopted taking account of program size, expenses and occupancy rates; and grants are paid on a monthly basis.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

1995 The Parti Québecois held an extensive public consultation process on the education system and included proposals to change the jurisdiction, delivery and funding of early childhood education. It considered introduction of full-day kindergarten for four and five year olds through an integrated early childhood system.

1996 A moratorium on new permits for child care services was in force for a year from April 1995. In May, the government announced that for-profit centres would no longer receive any funding in Québec. (This was later modified somewhat when the new family policy was introduced in 1997.)

The Québec government announced its intention to implement a new family policy and to develop a comprehensive early childhood policy for children from 0 to 12 years old. It contained three main components:

- an integrated child allowance for young children and newborns designed to gradually replace the existing family allowance;
- enhanced maternity and parental leave provisions through a new parental insurance plan;
- the development of early childhood education and child care services to provide universally accessible programs to foster child development, and to gradually introduce skills that children need to succeed at school.

1997 Implementation of the new early childhood care and education program began to be phased in over a four year period. In the first year of the program, kindergarten for all five year olds was extended to the full school day; the few existing half-day kindergarten programs for four year olds continued and were supplemented by a half-day out-of-school child care program at no cost to the parent. At the same time, space for four year olds in either regulated centre-based programs or family day care became available at a fee of $5/day. This was extended to three year olds in September 1998 and continued to be extended incrementally until the year 2000, when all age groups were covered.

The Ministère de la Famille et de l'Enfance (MFE) was established and became responsible for early childhood care and education services for children aged 0-4. Child care centres and family child care agencies were replaced by centres de la petite enfance (CPEs). Over the next five years, each CPE was to develop at least two services — typically a centre component and a family child care component. Centres could also develop part-time spaces if there was a need for parents who were not in the paid labour force and who did not wish to access a full-time space. Nursery schools were not included in this new program, in part because they are not licensed in Québec, and because they are usually for-profit or run by community centres, thus not satisfying the requirements for board structure.

2000 Child care at $5/day became available to all children aged 0-4 whether or not the parent is in the paid labour force. Individual centres could implement policies which give priority to employed parents, single parents, or some other target group. Families on social assistance and not in the workforce may access up to 23H hours/week of care at no cost. Low income working families may also qualify for an additional fee reduction by accessing the APPORT program (Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale). If eligible, they may receive an additional $3 a day to reduce their $5/day fee to $2.

The required number of staff trained in early childhood education in centre-based programs was increased from one-third of staff in a centre to two-thirds. In addition, a programme educatif would be required in all centres.

The child:staff ratios for four year olds was increased from 8:1 to 10:1 but remained at 8:1 for three year olds.

Since 1997, the Ministry began to "rent" space from existing for-profit operations with funding at a lesser rate than CPE centres. Agreements with for-profit centres would be renegotiated annually until such time as they are no longer needed.

2000 Following two days of strikes by child care workers over wages, an agreement among the government, union representatives, and representatives of child care boards of directors was struck. Through direct government funding, child care staff in non-profit centres and family child care were to be paid according to a province-wide scale based on education and experience. It was anticipated that an average wage increase

of 35-40% would be implemented over four years, with an additional $44 million allocated in 1999-2000. A provincial task force recommended that child care staff be included in *The Pay Equity Act*.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ECEC SERVICES

A major expansion of regulated child care is underway and demand remains high. In the five years from the implementation of the new early childhood policy in 1997 to 2001, Québec increased the number of child care spaces (for children aged 0-4) from 82,302 spaces to 139,683 as well as introducing full school-day kindergarten for all five year olds. Québec expects to expand the number of child care spaces to 200,000 by 2005-2006.

According to the Institut de la statistique du Québec, approximately 85,000 children under the age of five are on a waiting list for a child care space. Of these, 8,700 are already enrolled in a $5/day space but wish to change. (These children may be on more than one waiting list). Parents who do not have a $5/day space may still claim the federal Child Care Expense Deduction and the provincial tax credit.

In order to comply with increased training requirements as well as expansion, the government undertook a public education campaign to attract staff and promote training. To assist those already in the field to access additional training, the government began to provide financial support for college-level courses and funding for any necessary substitutes in the CPEs.

1998 A national study of wages, working conditions and quality, You Bet I Care!, found that based on a sample of full-time centres for children 0-6 years and regulated family child care – Québec scored 4.7 on the ECERS-R (preschool rooms), 3.6 on the ITERS (infant rooms), and 4.5 on the FDCRS (family child care). (See Table 25 for elaboration.)

March 2000 Twenty for-profit centres had converted to non-profit with several more in the process.

2000 MFE began funding several pilot projects in an attempt to determine how to meet some of the more non-traditional needs for child care such as evening, overnight and weekend care. Projects receive funding in addition to the CPE funding formulas and may in certain situations operate outside the regulations. Each project will undergo a comprehensive evaluation.

A $152 million investment over four years was committed from 1999-2003 to raise wages: $91.5 million was committed for the centre-based component of CPEs, $32.4 million for family child care, and $27.6 million for day care centres (garderies).

Although the Government of Québec did not sign the Early Childhood Development Agreement, Québec was allocated $71.6 million from these funds in 2001. No information on how money was allocated is available.

KEY PROVINCIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Concertaction inter-régionale des centres de la petite enfance du Québec
1854, boulevard Marie, bureau 200
St. Hubert, PQ J4T 2A9
Téléphone: 450-672-2799
Télécopieur: 450-672-9648
Website: http://www.circpeq.com/

Fédération des centres de la petite enfance du Québec
3950, boul.de la Chaudière, bureau 125
Sainte Foy, PQ G1X 4M8
Téléphone: 418-659-3059
Télécopieur: 418-659-7957

Website: www.fcpeq.qc.ca

Association des services de garde en milieu scolaire du Québec
13, rue Saint-Laurent est
Longeuil, PQ J4H 4B7
Téléphone: 450-646-2753
Télécopieur: 450-646-1807

Syndicats des travailleuses et travailleurs en garderie, FSSS-CSN
1600 avenue de Lorimier, #105
Montréal, PQ H2K 3W5
Téléphone: 514-522-8697

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Association québecoise des educateurs et des educatrices du primaire
85, rue Saint-Charles Ouest
Bureau 2201, 2e étage
Longueuil, PQ J7H 1C5
Téléphone: 450-463-4300
Télécopieur: 450-928-0387

Fédération nationale des enseignantes et des enseignants du Québec
1601, rue de Lorimier
Montréal, PQ H2K 4M5
Téléphone: 514-598-2241
Télécopieur: 514-598-2190

Ontario

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	408,200
3-5	436,400
6-12	1,099,800
Total 0-12	1,944,400

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	253,400
3-5	285,400
6-12	786,500
Total 0-12	1,325,400

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	24,585	3,190	430
5-9	23,000	3,130	320
10-14	21,560	3,045	270

Note: These 1996 data are the most recent currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities (2001)

Age	Number of children with disabilities	Rate of children with disabilities (%)
0-4	10,700	1.6
5-9	30,500	4.0
10-14	37,140	4.8
Total 0-14 yrs	78,340	3.5

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2001 rounded estimate)

Age of youngest child	No. of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	230,000	67
3-5	187,000	74.2
6-15	579,000	82.1

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave
17 weeks to the natural mother only.

Parental leave
35 weeks for birth mothers who took maternity leave; 37 weeks for other parent. Leaves may be taken by both parents consecutively.

Adoption leave
37 weeks.

Emergency leave
10 days if employee works for an employer with more than 50 employees.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 127,408
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 71,710

Note: Provincial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION

Ontario. Legislative Assembly. *Education Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2

Ontario. Legislative Assembly. *Education Quality and Accountability Office Act*. 1996, S.O. 1996, c. 11.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Ontario Ministry of Education.

Ontario is one of three provinces that continues to fund and deliver denominational education. In all regions, both "public" and Catholic school boards are publicly funded.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

SENIOR KINDERGARTEN

Services for five year olds are provided by school boards. Senior kindergarten is usually part-time except in francophone school boards where it is full day for five year olds as well as some four year olds.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten for four year olds is provided by school boards, usually part-time. It is not mandatory that school boards provide junior kindergarten but most do so.

Neither junior nor senior kindergarten is compulsory; however, most eligible children attend.

Junior and senior kindergarten is delivered in public and private schools. Instructional hours are not defined by the Education Act. School boards decide on normal day schedule. Generally, there are four models:
– Half day; every day, Junior K or K

- Full day; alternate day, Junior K or K
- Full day; everyday. Junior K or K
- Combined Junior K and K.

CLASS SIZE

There is a maximum average class size set (board-wide maximum average class size of 24 for JK to Grade 3).

The provincial average class size for JK to Grade 3 is 22.2 (2000-01).

School boards determine whether and when to employ teaching assistants.

AGE ELIGIBILITY

Junior kindergarten: Four years old by December 31.
Senior kindergarten: Five years old by December 31.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

No information is available on policies, extra support, or number of kindergarten children with special needs.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

JK (2001-2002): 114,669
SK (2001-2002): 133,686

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

A valid Ontario Teacher's Certificate (undergraduate degree plus one year of teacher training) is required. While additional qualifications are not required, according to provincial officials, many JK and K teachers have them (for example, primary specialist, Early Childhood Certificate).

School boards set the criteria for hiring teaching assistants.

CURRICULUM

A provincial curriculum is outlined in The Kindergarten Program (1998). It is "designed to help children broaden their base of information, form concepts, acquire foundation skills and positive attitudes to learning, and begin to develop their abilities and talents in a wide range of areas. It is also designed to prepare children for the new Ontario curriculum for Grades 1 to 8". The document "identifies a variety of learning expectations. Among these are expectations related to children's development of literacy (including technological and computer literacy) and of knowledge and skills in mathematics and science".

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Estimate per pupil (FTE) amount
JK: $6,645
K: $6,673

Total provincial spending on junior kindergarten
Foundation Grant + other grants: $383 million

Total provincial spending on senior kindergarten
Foundation Grant + other grants: $439 million

SPECIAL FEATURES

It is up to the individual school board to determine additional policies or resources regarding ESL or inner-city kindergarten students.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

Ontario. Legislative Assembly. *The Day Nurseries Act*. Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1990 (reprinted 1998). Amended by The *Services Improvement Act* effective January 1, 1998, c. D-2 Amended by: 1997, c. 30, Sched. C; 1999, c. 12, Sched. E, s. 2; 1999, c. 12, Sched. G, s. 21; O. Reg. 500/00; 2001, c. 13, s. 14.

Ontario. Legislative Assembly. *Ontario Regulation 262*, 1990. (Amended 1998, 1999)

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Helga Loechel, Director
Early Years and Healthy Child Development Branch
Integrated Services for Children Division
Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services
80 Grosvenor Street
4th Floor, Hepburn Block
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1E9
Telephone: (416) 325-5315
Facsimile: (416) 325-5349

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted: 5
Figure does not include the caregiver's own children.

Family resource centres
Resource centres provide support services to parents, and regulated and unregulated providers in the caregiving role. The range of services can include: drop-in programs, resource lending libraries, playgroups, training opportunities and educational workshops.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Day nurseries (child care centres, nursery schools, before and after-school programs)
Group care for less than 24 hours/day for five or more unrelated children under 12 years, and under 18 years for children with a developmental disability.

Supervised private home day care (family child care)
Care for up to five children from 0-12 years old in a private home that is supervised by a licensed agency. Not more than two children may be under two years, and not more than three children may be under three years, including the caregiver's children under six years. If the caregiver's children are under six, she/he may care for two children age 6-12 years. For example, if a caregiver's children are ages three and four, then she/he may provide care for up to two more children between the ages of 6-12.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Ontario does not have a written policy regarding children with special needs but encourages integration and inclusion of children with special needs into community child care services. Responsibility for special needs resourcing programs have been transferred to Consolidated Municipal Service Managers or District Social Services Administration Boards (CMSMs or DSSABs). (These are usually municipal or regional governments.) Special needs resourcing provides assistance for staffing, equipment, supplies or services to support the inclusion of children with special needs in child care.

A resource teacher must hold a diploma in early childhood education or academic equivalent and have completed a post-secondary school program related to children with special needs. If working with children with multiple disabilities, the resource teacher must also have a current standard certificate in first aid.

There are no training or experience requirements for staff other than resource teachers who are working with children who have special needs.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Ontario funds and regulates on-reserve child care.

As of September 2002, there were 86 licensed child care centres on-reserve with a licensed capacity of 2,756. There were also 13 centres off-reserve serving Aboriginal children with a licensed capacity of 407, and three family child care agencies with 61 homes serving Aboriginal children.

The Day Nurseries Act treats Indian Bands in a manner analogous to municipalities for the purpose of child care funding and administration. Expenses are cost-shared with the federal government through the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs under the 1965 Canada/ Ontario Agreement Respecting Welfare Programs for Indians.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)	
Infants (0-18 mos.)	5,478
Toddlers (18-30 mos.)	17,747
Preschool (21/2-5 yrs.)	82,030
JK (3yrs 8mos)	6,290
SK (4yrs 8 mos)	6,565
School-age (6-12 yrs.)	55,025
Family child care*	Estimate not available
Total (estimate)	173,135

**In 1998, it was estimated that approximately 18,000 of these spaces were in family child care.*

Note: Breakdowns of full- and part-time centre-based and family child care are not available by age. These estimates were provided by provincial officials.

Children with special needs in regulated child care 19,212 (estimate, 1998)

Note: The Ontario government no longer collects this information.

Number of children in regulated child care receiving subsidies 73,400 (estimate, 1998)

Note: 2001 data or estimates are not available. The 1998 estimate was provided by provincial officials.

Percent of children in regulated child care receiving subsidies (estimate, 2001) 44%

Note: This estimate was provided by provincial officials.

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (2001)

Not-for-profit	143,522
For-profit	29,613

Note: Current figures are not available for the number of municipally-operated child care spaces. In 1998, however, 18,143 of the non-profit spaces were municipal.

Sponsorship of family child care agencies (2001)

	Agencies	Homes
Not-for-profit*	120	7,294
For-profit	18	586
Total	138	7,880

**Note: This includes municipally-operated family child care agencies.*

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum centre size

Not specified

Maximum staff:child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-18 mos	3:10	10
18 mos-2 yrs	1:5	15
2-5 yrs	1:8	16
3 yrs 8 mos-5yrs	1:10	20 (with Director's* approval)
5-6 yrs	1:12	24
6-10 yrs	1:15	30

**Director is an employee of the Ministry appointed by the Min-ister as a Director for the purposes of the Day Nurseries Act.*

Staff qualification requirements

Centre supervisors must have a two year diploma in early childhood education from an approved College of Applied Arts and Technology (CAAT) or the equivalent, and at least two years experience working in a day nursery with children who are of the same age and developmental level as the children in the day nursery where the supervisor is employed.

One staff person with each group of children must have a two year early childhood education diploma (CAAT) or equivalent.

A Ministry Director has the authority to waive the educational requirements for directors and other staff in a specific program. A Director is an employee of the Ministry appointed by the Minister as a Director for the purposes of the *Day Nurseries Act*.

Parent involvement

Each centre and family child care agency must have a written statement regarding parent involvement. The type of parental involvement is not specified.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Ministry Program Advisors based in Regional Offices license, monitor and enforce the *Day Nurseries Act and its Regulations*.

Program Advisors are not required to have training in early childhood education.

The annual license renewal process includes an inspection of the child care facility to ensure compliance with the regulatory standards. Unannounced drop-in visits are also conducted. Noncompliance with the legislation which does not pose an immediate threat to the children's well-being may result in a provisional license with a time frame in which the operator is required to correct the noncompliance. Repeated noncompliance of a serious nature or noncompliance which poses a likely danger to the children may result in a refusal to renew or a revocation of the license. However, the provincial Director of the child care branch must give notice of intent to close the centre to the operator who then has the right to appeal to the License Appeal Tribunal. The legislation provides the authority for immediate closure in the situation of immediate danger to the children's well-being.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

In Ontario, family child care has historically been referred to as "private home day care" in provincial legislation. The term "home child care" is commonly used.

Regulation

The Ministry licenses family child care agencies that then enter into agreements with caregivers to provide child care. The agencies provide supervision as specified in the regulations.

Maximum capacity

Care for up to five children from 0-12 years. Not more than two of the children may be under two years, and not more than three of the children may be under three years including the caregiver's own children under six years. Not more than two may be children with special needs. Only one child with special needs may be cared for if there is one other child under two years of age or two children over two years of age.

If the caregiver's own children are under six years, then she/he may care for two children age 6-12 years. For example, if a caregiver's children are ages three and four, then she/he may provide care for up to two more children between the ages of 6-12.

Provider qualification requirements

No caregiver training qualifications are specified in provincial regulations. Regulation requires caregivers to be older than 18 years and, if working with children with special needs, to hold a standard first-aid certificate. Many agencies provide training for caregivers.

Caregivers are supervised by agency staff called home visitors who are required to have completed a post-secondary program in child development or family studies, and to have at least two years experience working with children who are of the same age and developmental levels as the children cared for by the agency where the person is employed.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

The agency home visitor is required to conduct quarterly in-home supervisory visits. The agency is responsible for ensuring that legislated requirements are met.

As part of agency licensing inspection, provincial program advisors may inspect homes to ensure that the agency is in compliance with the *Day Nurseries Act* and Regulations.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE

Fee assistance is paid directly to non-profit and for-profit service providers on behalf of eligible parents. In Ontario, 47 Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSM) or District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSAB) (these are usually municipal or regional governments) and Native Bands administer the fee subsidy program. These pay at least 20% of the approved cost of fee subsidies.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Eligibility is determined by a provincially-determined needs test with income being only one of a number of items considered. Each municipality can determine the rates within a range, a situation which creates considerable variation across the province. There are no province-wide maximum income levels for full or partial fee subsidies.

The province does not set maximum subsidy levels. The maximum subsidy varies across the province and is at the discretion of the local government (CMSM or DSSAB).

There is no provincial minimum user fee.

The provincial government permits subsidization up to the full cost of the program. However, in practice, municipalities set maximum subsidy rates.

Municipalities may allocate a specified number of subsidized spaces to particular programs or may allow them to float.

There is a province-wide cap on the total subsidy budget rather than on the number of subsidized spaces available. Lengthy waiting lists of eligible parents exist in some communities but some do not maintain waiting lists.

Fee subsidies for all children including those with special needs are determined on the basis of 80% contribution by the provincial government and 20% contribution by local governments.

Special needs resourcing is split 80/20 between the province and municipalities. The province does not require that parents of children with special needs be needs tested for fee subsidy eligibility but some municipalities have imposed a needs test.

Average net income of families receiving child care subsidies
Information not available.

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidies	$299,800,000
One-time funding	none
Recurring funding	
Wage enhancements	116,200,000
Special needs resourcing	35,500,000
Total	$451,500,000
Other	
Family resource centres	$19,700,000
Ontario Works child care*	34,000,000

**Ontario Works child care includes funds for both regulated and unregulated child care. (See other ecec services for more information.) Breakdown of expenditure is not available.*

SALARIES

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full and part-time staff combined) (1998)

Assistant teachers	$10.60
Teachers	13.48
Teacher-directors	17.48
Administrative directors	22.00

Source: You Bet I Care! More recent information not available.

Family child care
Information not available.

FEES

Median monthly parent fees for full-time centre-based care (1998)

Infants (Age 1-17 mos)	$783
Toddlers (Age 18 mos - 3 yrs)	603
Preschool (Age 3 - 5.11 yrs)	541
School-age	not available

Source: You Bet I Care! More recent information not available.

Average daily fee in family child care
Information not available.

ADMINISTRATION

The Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services is responsible for developing policy and legislation, coordinating planning, licensing programs and ensuring compliance with the regulations.

The Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Serv-ices is a decentralized ministry. Licensing and monitoring of programs is the responsibility of nine Regional Offices. The Early Years and Healthy Child Development Branch is responsible for policy and legislation development.

Administration of funds has become a local responsibility (see section following).

MUNICIPAL OR OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

Responsibility for managing delivery of child care services lies with 47 Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs) or District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs). (These are usually municipal or regional governments.)

The transfer of responsibility was completed on January 1, 2000 and was authorized by amendments to the Day Nurseries Act.

This change means that 20% of funding for wage subsidies, resource centres and special needs resourcing is paid by local governments, whereas 100% of these funds were previously paid by the provincial government.

In addition, Ontario municipal governments operate regulated child care, a role they have played since the time of World War II.

Beginning in 1992, school boards also were authorized to operate child care services.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Beginning in 2000, the provincial government requires local governments to develop local service plans including service targets and levels according to provincial guidelines on local service planning. Although these are three year service plans, Regional Offices review them on an annual basis.

OTHER ECEC SERVICES

Family resource centres
There are approximately 450 resources centres in Ontario. The Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services provides funds to approximately 180 of these programs.

Ontario Works child care

Ontario Works child care funds may be used to cover:

- the actual cost of regular child care fee subsidies under the Day Nurseries Act as a transition measure where participants are in employment assistance activities or are entering the paid labour market;
- payment for unregulated child care arrangements or alternatives to child care (e.g. summer camp, supervised homework programs, recreational programs) up to established maximums.

Whether the payment goes to the parent or to a service provider is determined by each local government.

Ontario Works includes Learning, Earning and Parenting, which is mandatory for teen parents on social assistance and includes high school, parenting courses, peer mentoring, career counseling, job preparation and payments for child care.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECECC SERVICES

1881 Establishment of The Crèche in Toronto (now Victoria Day Care Services).

1883 Establishment of Canada's first public kindergarten by the Toronto Board of Education.

1887 Kindergarten for three to five year olds was recognized in the *Education Act*.

1926 Establishment of the University of Toronto's Institute of Child Study and its laboratory school, St. George's Nursery, to train nursery school teachers.

1942 Ontario was one of two provinces to sign the Dominion-Provincial War-Time Agreement with the federal government, enabling 50% cost-sharing for nurseries for children whose mothers were employed in essential war industries. The Day Nurseries Branch was established to administer funding and to support the development of new nurseries.

1945 Twenty-eight day nurseries in Ontario serviced 900 preschool children in 44 "school units" which served approximately 2,500 children. At the end of the War, federal funding was withdrawn and the province threatened to close all centres.

1946 The Day Nursery and Day Care Parents' Association in Toronto successfully lobbied to keep the day nurseries open.

The *Day Nurseries Act* was passed, providing provincial funds to cover 50% of net operating costs of child care programs and a system of licensing and regular inspection for centres. It provided Canada's first child care regulation.

1950 The Nursery Education Association of Ontario (now the Association of Early Childhood Educators, Ontario) was established.

1950s Kindergarten for four year olds was introduced in Toronto as a transition to school for immigrant children.

1966 The introduction of the federal Canada Assistance Plan resulted in the provision of fee subsidies in Ontario for low-income families.

1974 Ontario's first major policy statement on child care called it a welfare service for those in social/financial need.

The Day Care Reform Action Alliance successfully fought the *Birch Proposals*, the provincial government's proposed reduction in staff/child ratios and other standards to reduce costs.

1978 The *Day Nurseries Act* was amended to require licensing of private home day care agencies. The Regulation was amended in 1984 to provide requirements for private home day care.

1980 The Ontario Coalition for Better Day Care (later Child Care) formed to advocate for public funding for universally accessible, high quality, non-profit child care.

1987 In *New Directions for Day Care*, a Liberal government promised a "comprehensive policy that recognizes child care as a basic public service, not a welfare service". A three year plan to provide additional funds to expand non-profit child care programs was announced.

1991 An NDP government made two announcements that reflected its intention to establish growth in the non-profit sector: a Wage Enhancement Grant for workers in non-profit care as a "down payment" on pay equity, and a strategy to encourage commercial programs to convert to non-profit status.

1992 The provincial government released *Child Care Reform in Ontario: Setting the Stage*, which stated four basic principles as the basis for child care reform: quality, affordability, accessibility, and sound management. The consultation paper promised dramatic reform of child care in Ontario with the goal of making high quality child care accessible to every family. New legislation was to be developed by the end of 1994.

The provincial government also released the *Ontario Child Care Management Framework*, establishing a context for the development of new programs and changes to existing programs.

School boards were granted eligibility to hold licenses to operate child care programs.

As part of the Jobs Ontario Training Fund, 8,200 child care subsidies, fully funded by the province, were targeted to assist unemployed parents looking for work or participating in job training programs.

1994 The report of The Royal Commission on Learning recommended introduction of early childhood education programs for all three, four and five year olds as part of the education system.

1995 The provincial government announced a major pilot project, the Early Years Program, the first step toward a "seamless day" for four and five year olds. School boards were asked to submit proposals for pilot status.

In June, a Conservative government was elected. Their platform, the Common Sense Revolution, promised to change the direction in child care made during the two previous (Liberal and NDP) governments.

1995 Before the end of 1995, the following changes were made:

- the proxy fund for pay equity for staff in non-profit child care centres was capped
- the Program Development Fund (start-up and minor capital) was eliminated
- major capital funding was cancelled
- funding that supported inclusion of child care facilities in new school sites was cancelled
- the Conversion (to non-profit) Program was cancelled
- the Early Years Program (to pilot a "seamless day" for four and five year olds) was cancelled
- the policy limiting new subsidies to non-profit programs was cancelled
- Jobs Ontario subsidies (fully-funded by the province) changed to 80-20% provincial-municipal cost-sharing.

1996 The proxy mechanism that allowed child care staff to benefit from The *Pay Equity Act* was eliminated.

A review of the child care program was conducted by the Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services. The Ministry produced Improving Child Care in Ontario in September 1996. Its proposals included:

- reduction of Wage Subsidy for staff in non-profit centres and resource centres
- minor capital (50/50 cost-shared) which included for-profit child care for the first time
- less frequent monitoring
- an increase in the preschool staff/child ratio
- an increase in the number of school-aged children permitted in regulated family day care
- a change in cost-sharing 87/13 to 80/20 for special needs children
- introduction of user fees in resource centres.

Note: Not all of these proposals were implemented.

1998 The government made amendments to the *Day Nurseries Act* through the *Services Improvement Act* outlining how delivery and additional funding responsibility for child care services would be transferred to local governments. Previously, 20% of municipal funding had been discretionary and was limited to fee subsidies with the provincial government paying for 100% of the other items.

The government announced its intent to transfer licensing to the local level. However, the authority for licensing was not included in the Services Improvement Act and no date for transfer was set.

The Ministry began developing a child care information system, the Child Care Data Warehouse, in collaboration with municipalities for local program delivery and for centralized performance-related data collection.

1998 A Workplace Tax Incentive was introduced to encourage businesses in building and renovating onsite and community-based child care facilities. Corporations may receive a tax deduction of 30% of qualifying expenditures and unincorporated businesses may receive a 5% refundable tax credit.

1998 A new funding formula for Ontario education was introduced. It was expected to have a profound effect on the security and tenure of these early childhood services. The new funding formula meant that school boards would experience shortfalls leading to new rent and other charges for early childhood services, as well as withdrawal of school board support for services considered not to be "education" as defined by the Education Act. The shortfalls, calculated to be massive in some boards, meant that schools would be closed and consolidated. Early childhood programs in closed schools would be lost and these early childhood programs in schools remaining open could be lost as their space would be needed to accommodate children whose schools closed.

Accurate statistics were not available but it was estimated that as many as a third to a half of Ontario child care centres were located in school space. Previous provincial governments pursued a policy, introduced in the late 1980s and ended in 1995, of locating child care centres in all new schools.

1999 The proxy mechanism that allowed child care staff to benefit from the *Pay Equity Act*, eliminated in 1996, was reinstated following a court challenge by the Equal Pay Coalition. Retroactive payments were made to eligible non-profit child care programs as a lump sum pay equity adjustment sent out in early 1999.

April 1999 *Report of the Early Years Study*, commissioned by the provincial government and led by Dr. Fraser Mustard and the Hon. Margaret McCain, was released. It concluded that the development in the first six years of a child's life sets the foundation for lifelong learning, behaviour and health. It recommended the establishment of Early Childhood Development and Parenting Centres that are "accessible, affordable and optional for all children and families in Ontario from conception to entry into Grade 1 in the school system". It further recommended that these become available for all children within five years, by 2004.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1998 Ontario Child Care Supplement for Working Families is established. It uses funds clawed back from families on welfare under the National Child Benefit to provide financial assistance of up to $1,100 per year to low and modest income families with children under the age of seven. Eligible families include those where both parents are working or in school/training, single parents who are working or attending school/training, and working families where one parent stays at home to care for children under seven.

A national study of wages, working conditions and quality, *You Bet I Care!*, found that — based on a sample of full-time centres for children 0-6 years and regulated family child care — Ontario scored 4.9 on

the ECERS-R (preschool rooms), 4.1 on the ITERS (infant rooms), and 3.9 on the FDCRS (family child care). (See Table 25 for elaboration.)

1999 In October, the Ontario government announces five pilot projects (in South East Grey, London, North Bay, York Region and Ottawa) to "help Ontario's children get the best start in life".

A Task Group is appointed "to advise the government on key elements and standards for an Early Years Program".

The Early Years Challenge Fund, a matching fund that challenges businesses, volunteer and charitable groups to "help communities promote early childhood development and parenting programs" is announced.

A study by KPMG, a consulting firm, finds that the shortage of child care spaces is a major obstacle to people obtaining a job under Ontario Works, the provincial workfare program.

2000 In September, the Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services amends the regulation under the *Day Nurseries Act* to allow child care fee subsidies to flow to parents in need with children ages 6-12 (up to age 18 for children with special needs) enrolled in unregulated recreation programs. The program must have a purchase of service agreement with the local government or authority.

In November, the provincial government launches Ontario's Promise, a program to promote public/private partnerships and volunteers in fulfilling five "promises to children". Ontario's Promise is based on an American program called America's Promise.

A Minister's policy statement on eligible hours of care is issued. It requires that child care fee subsidies and Ontario Works child care assistance be used only for these periods when child care is actually required for parents to work or attend school.

The provincial Education Improvement Commission (Ministry of Education) proposes full-day kindergarten for four and five year olds, and expanding regulated child care for younger children rather than cash payments to parents.

2001 Ontario receives $114 million for the first year from the federal/provincial Early Childhood Development Initiative.

The provincial government launches its Early Years Plan for children 0-6 which "fulfills the new way of thinking outlined in the Mustard-McCain study". Of the $114 million, $30 million is announced to establish Early Years Centres across Ontario. Early Years Centres will be places where "parents can go to find the answers to questions they have about their children"; there will be one per provincial riding. In addition, funds are earmarked for the Early Years Challenge Fund, pregnant women with addictions, Community Health Centres, sexual assault services, autism, children's mental health, to teen parent programming, Program Effectiveness Management, Injury and Family Abuse Prevention, and others. None of the money is spent on "early learning and care" in Ontario.

In September, the *Day Nurseries Act* regulations are amended to allow fee subsidies to for school-aged children to be used in unregulated recreation programs under purchase of service agreements with the local government.

The provincial government tightens eligibility criteria for subsidized child care; hardest hit are student parents.

An internal provincial policy paper is publicized in the Toronto Star. It outlines three options that each begin with a $200 million cut to the child care budget ($470 million). Two of these options propose eliminating the remaining child care budget (including family resource programs), turning the funds into cash payments for low income parents while the third option proposes retaining a provincial child care budget of $270 million. The Ontario budget in June 2002 does not announce these expected cuts.

In December, the Provincial Auditor's Report on education states that school boards in Ontario are spending $95 million more than they receive from the government on special education services.

2002 In August, Dr. Fraser Mustard and the Hon. Margaret McCain release their follow-up report, *The Early Years Study — Three Years Later*. This report says that the Ontario government has not responded to the recommendations from their previous 1999 report. It notes the failure to support child care as part of the Early Years strategy.

The provincial government appoints a Task Force headed by Mordechai Rozanski to review the funding formula.

People for Education calculate that more than $1 billion has been removed from the provincial education budget with impacts in a wide range of areas. The effects of the education funding formula on programs including kindergarten and child care and family resource programs in schools are described at public hearings and in the press. Three of the largest schools boards do not bring in the balanced budgets required by the provincial government. The government appoints supervisors for these boards to replace the elected school boards.

KEY PROVINCIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care
726 Bloor Street West, Suite 209
Toronto, ON M6G 4A1
Telephone: 416-538-0628
Facsimile: 416-538-6737
website: www.childcareontario.org

Association of Early Childhood Educators, Ontario
40 Orchard View Blvd., Suite 211
Toronto, ON M4R 2G1
Telephone: 416-487-3157
Facsimile: 416-487-3758

Association of Day Care Operators of Ontario
Administrative Office
331 Dufferin Avenue
Belleville, ON K8N 3X6
Telephone: 705-733-2052 or 1-800-567-7075
Facsimile: 1-800-567-7075

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
480 University Ave., Ste.1000
Toronto, ON M5G 1V2
Telephone: 416-962-3836
Facsimile: 416-642-2424
Website: www.etfo.ca

Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association
65 St. Clair Ave. E., Suite 400
Toronto, ON M4T 2Y8
Telephone: 416-925-2493
Facsimile: 416-925-7764

Website: www.oecta.on.ca

Ontario Teachers' Federation
1300 Yonge Street, Suite 200
Toronto, ON M4T 1X3
Telephone: 416-966-3424
Facsimile: 416-966-5450
Website: www.otffeo.on.ca

People for Education
P.O Box 64 Station P.
Toronto, ON M5S 2S6
Telephone: 416-410-3571
Facsimile: 416-461-4107
Website: www.peopleforeducation.com

Manitoba

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 rounded estimate)

0-2 yrs	38,800
3-5	40,000
6-12	107,100
Total 0-12	185,900

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (2001 rounded estimate)

0-2 yrs	23,400
3-5	25,800
6-12	79,200
Total 0-12	128,200

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	14,140	6,135	80
5-9	13,085	5,505	80
10-14	10,930	4,890	35

Note: These 1996 data are the most recent currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities (2001)

Age	Number of children with disabilities	Rate of children with disabilities (%)
0-4	1,210	1.9
5-9	3,130	4.3
10-14	3,580	4.8
Total 0-14 yrs	7,920	3.8

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2001 rounded estimate)

Age of youngest child	No. of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	22,000	65.7
3-5	17,000	75.1
6-15	56,000	85.5

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave

17 weeks.

Parental leave
Both parents may take up to 37 weeks.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 14,090
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 6,310

Note: Provincial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION

Manitoba. Legislative Assembly. *Public Schools Act*. 1987, C.S.M, c. P250. Amended 1992, 1996, 1997, 2001, 2002.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Manitoba Education and Youth.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten is delivered in public and private schools. It is available to all five year olds in Manitoba on a part-time basis. There are 522.5 instructional hours a year.

NURSERIES

Winnipeg School Division 1 offers half-day kindergartens for four year olds (these are referred to as "nurseries" but are not licensed as nursery schools under *The Community Child Day Care Standards Act*). Frontier School Division also offers a pre-K program for four year olds.

Kindergarten is not compulsory in Manitoba. Access is legislated: it is an entitlement.

AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old by December 31.

CLASS SIZE

There is no provincial class size limit. Some collective agreements specify class size.

There is no provincial policy regarding teaching assistants; some school divisions provide them.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a policy of inclusion in regular kindergarten. To provide extra supports, there is both block funding to school divisions to allocate to schools and two levels of funding to allocate to identified child needs (these are determined on a case by case basis).

The number of kindergarten children with special needs is not available.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT (2001)

Five year olds: 13,000 (estimate)

Note: This does not include non-funded private schools or Indian Bands.

Four year olds: Enrollment not available

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Must be a certified teacher (B.Ed). Early childhood qualifications are not required.

In the Winnipeg nurseries, staffing includes a qualified teacher and sometimes an assistant with an average class size of 20.

CURRICULUM

There is a provincial kindergarten curriculum. Through an activity centre-based approach, it includes exposure to language arts, math, science, social studies, physical education, arts and French.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Average spending per kindergarten student
$3,500

SPECIAL FEATURES

ESL grants of $600 per child per year to a maximum of three years.

Aboriginal Achievement Grant is given to school divisions.

Inner-city children are considered a school division responsibility. School divisions allocate funds to specific schools.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

Manitoba. Legislative Assembly. *The Community Child Day Care Standards Act*, C.C.S.M. cC158.

Manitoba. Legislative Assembly. *Manitoba Child Day Care Regulations*, M.R. 62/86.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Kathy Reid, Director
Manitoba Family Services and Housing
Child Day Care
102-114 Garry Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1G1
Telephone: (204) 945-2668
Facsimile: (204) 948-2143

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted: 4

No more than two children may be under two years. Figure includes the caregiver's own children under 12 years.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Day care centres
Full-day centre-based services for at least five children under six years or no more than three children under two years for more than four continuous hours/day, three or more days/week.

Nursery schools
Part-time centre-based programs for more than three infants or more than five preschoolers of whom no more than three are infants, four or less continuous hours/day, or for more than four continuous hours per day and less than three days/week.

School-age child care centres
Services outside school hours for more than eight children ages 6-12 years (may include children attending kindergarten). Services may be exempt from licensing by Child Day Care if provided by public schools.

Family day care homes
Care in a private home for a maximum of eight children under 12 years (including the provider's own children under 12 years). Not more than five children may be under six years; of these, no more than three children may be under two years.

Group family day care homes
Care in a private home by two caregivers for a maximum of 12 children (including the providers' own children under 12 years). Not more than three of the children may be under two years.

Occasional day care centres
Care on a casual basis for more than three infants or more than five preschoolers of whom not more than three are infants, or more than eight children of whom not more than five are preschoolers and not more than three are infants.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Manitoba Children with Disabilities Program integrates children with special needs into mainstream child care. Support is available to non-profit child care centres, nursery schools and family and group day care homes. To receive additional supports, children must have a cognitive, developmental or physical disability and be assessed as eligible. In addition to cognitive, physical or developmental delay, Child Day Care will cover a child with "behavioural" problems as well as nursing support for medically fragile children. Services are not an entitlement but there is usually no waiting list once a diagnosis has been made.

Parents pay the same basic cost of care as other families but regardless of family income, parents do not pay the cost of the additional resources to support the child's participation in a child care program. Funding for the additional supports is paid to the program.

There is an additional exemption in the child care subsidy assessment if any member of the family has a disability.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Staffing grants are the main form of support at facilities caring for children with special needs. In addition, there are grants for renovations, equipment and educational materials, staff training or professional services related to the care of the child who are accomodated as available

Children's Special Services staff work with Child Day Care and departments of Education and Training and Health to coordinate programs and activities and to place children with special needs into child care programs. Children's Special Services also provides consultation and funding to non-government agencies that deliver therapy, respite and family support services.

There are no special training requirements for staff working with children with disabilities in child

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Manitoba does not license or fund child care programs on-reserve but the Child Day Care Branch assists facilities on-reserve to meet licensing requirements. Approximately 60 new child care centres have been established in First Nations communities under the federal government's First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative. A First Nations ECE training program has been developed in Opaskawayak-Keewatin Community College. A certificate program in Aboriginal child care is offered through Red River College.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)

Centre-based	Full-day	Part-time
Infants/toddler	1,070	24*
Preschool	8,758	4,278
School-age	—	4,971
Family child care	3,921	
Total regulated spaces	23,022	

**This represents children under two years who may be attending a program licensed as a nursery school.*

Children with special needs in regulated child care (2001)
1,070

Children receiving subsidies (2001)
10,964

Subsidized children as a proportion of total regulated spaces (2001)
48%

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (2001)

Non-profit	17,540
For-profit	1,561

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum room size
Two groups of children

Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Day care centre — Mixed age groups

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
12 wks-2 yrs	1:4	8
2-6 yrs	1:8	16
6-12 yrs	1:15	30

Day care centre — Separate age groups

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
12 wks-1 yr	1:3	6
1-2 yrs	1:4	8
2-3 yrs	1:6	12
3-4 yrs	1:8	16
4-5 yrs	1:9	18
5-6 yrs	1:10	20
6-12 yrs	1:15	30

Nursery school

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
12 wks-2 yrs	1:4	8
2-6 yrs	1:10	20

Group sizes and staff:child ratios for occasional day care centres are consistent with full-day preschool and school-age day care centres.

Staff qualification requirements

Manitoba has three qualification levels:

- Early Childhood Educator (ECE) III: An approved ECE III program and a recognized certificate program or an approved degree program from a recognized university.
- Early Childhood Educator (ECE) II: An approved diploma in child care services from a recognized community college or satisfactory completion of the Child Day Care Competency-based Assessment (CBA) Program.
- Child Care Assistant (CCA): Not eligible on the basis of educational requirements for classification at the ECE II or III level; employed in a child care centre.

Two-thirds of a full-time centre's staff for 0-6 year olds must be classified as ECE II or III and 1/2 of staff employed in school-age centres and nursery schools must be classified as ECE II or III.

A director in a full-time preschool centre must be classified as an ECE III and have one year of experience in working with children in child care or in a related field. A director in a school-age centre or nursery school must be classified as an ECE II and have one year of experience in child care or in a related setting.

All staff must be 18 years of age and have completed a first-aid course that includes CPR training relevant to the age group.

Parent involvement

All licensed non-profit centres are required to have boards of directors where parents constitute a minimum of 20% of the board members. For-profit centres are required to have parent advisory committees.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

There are 24.5 Day Care Centre Coordinators. They conduct a minimum of three monitoring visits of each centre each year, one of which is a re-licensing visit. A fourth contact with the facility during the year is also required.

Provisional licenses may be issued if the facility does not meet all of the requirements of the regulations or if time is required to bring the centre into compliance.

A licensing order may be issued when a severe violation of the Act or Regulations occurs. The order requires immediate correction of the areas listed, and is posted in the centre. Failure to comply may result in suspension or revocation of the license.

A license may be revoked if there is continued noncompliance with licensing requirements and the facility is deemed hazardous to the health, safety and well-being of the children.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

Regulation
Individually licensed.

Maximum capacity

Family day care homes (one provider)
Eight children under 12 years (including the provider's own children under 12 years). No more than five children may be under six years, of whom no more than three children may be under two years.

Group day care homes (two providers)
Twelve children under 12 years (including the provider's own children under 12 years). No more than three children may be under two years.

Provider qualification requirements
There are no early childhood education training requirements for providers. (See RECENT DEVELOPMENTS - April 2002 for changes.) However, if a provider is classified as an ECE II or III, she/he may charge a higher maximum daily fee equivalent to the fees charged in child care centres.

Providers must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid first-aid certificate that includes CPR training relevant to the age group being cared for. Providers are assessed by Child Day Care for their suitability to provide care based on recognized family child care competencies.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
When an individual applies for a license, provincial Day Care Centre Coordinators complete safety inspection reports of the applicant's home. Three drop-in visits per year and one scheduled re-licensing visit per year are conducted.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents. Eligibility for fee subsidies is determined by an income test via a mail-in or on-line application. Special social need of the child is an eligible category for subsidy.

There is a maximum subsidy of $4,264/child/year for full-day preschool children. Centres and family day care homes can surcharge subsidized parents higher than the maximum subsidy rate up to $2.40/day/child.

Surcharges are paid on behalf of parents in receipt of income assistance by the Employment and Income Assis-tance Division of Family Services up to $1.00/day so that the maximum surcharge paid by a parent on social assistance is $1.40/day

Non-profit and for-profit centres and family child care homes may enrol children receiving subsidies. Child care centres (non-profit) receiving provincial operating grants are required to enrol children receiving subsidies.

Programs that provide extended hour care may receive one-and-a-half times the regular operating grants for children receiving this type of care.

Parents who qualify for subsidy and show demonstrated need for care may receive subsidy for care provided in a nursery school. Maximum subsidy for nursery school is $8.20/day.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 2001)

	Turning point	Break-even point
1 parent, 1 child	$13,787	$24,577
2 parents, 2 children	18,895	40,475

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases.

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Non-profit child care services are eligible to receive an annual per space operating grant, staffing grants on behalf of children with disabilities, and start-up grants. For-profit child care programs are not eligible to receive grant funding; however, those licensed prior to April 18, 1991 are eligible to receive a guaranteed payment on behalf of subsidized children of up to 25% of their licensed spaces.

Maximum annual operating grants per licensed space

	Infants	Preschool	School-age
Fully-funded day care centres	$6,110	$1,807	$462
Fully-funded day care homes	608	208	208
Fully-funded group day care homes	608	208	208

Fully-funded nursery schools that operate from one to five sessions per week are eligible for $85/space/year; fully-funded nursery schools that operate from 6 to 10 sessions per week are eligible for $170/space/year.

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidies
$32,257,700

Recurring funding

Operating grants	20,343,500
Special needs grants	7,274,400

Other funding
(Transportation, communications, supplies and services, capital and other operating costs) $3,000,800
Total $62,876,400

SALARIES (2001)

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full- and part-time combined)

Child care assistants	$9.15
Teachers, Levels I and II	12.45
Teacher directors, including assistant directors	14.86
Administrative directors	18.73

Source: Manitoba Child Day Care.

Family child care
Information not available.

FEES (2001)

The provincial government sets maximum fees for all children (subsidized or full fee) in funded centre-based and family child care programs.

Maximum monthly fees (set by provincial government)

	Centres	Family child care
Infants	$560	$408
Preschool	376	328
School-age	341	229

Note: Unfunded centres may charge what they wish for their services.

ADMINISTRATION

The Child Day Care Branch, Department of Family Services and Housing, is responsible for licensing centres and family child care under the Act, and providing fee subsidies and operating funding to eligible centres and homes. It also classifies all early childhood educators and child care assistants who work in licensed centres. The Winnipeg office and eight regional offices are responsible for monitoring and licensing programs.

MUNICIPAL OR OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

There is no legislated municipal or other local government role in the delivery or operation of child care.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

In April 2002, Manitoba released its Five Year Plan for child care. The plan is intended to maintain and improve quality, improve accessibility and improve affordability. It sets out targets for funding new spaces, increasing wages and the number of trained ECEs. (See recent developments for details.)

Child care in schools

There is a child care in schools policy that must be considered in all new, renovating or replacement schools. The capital comes through the Public Schools Finance Board. Community members work with the Child Day Care office to conduct a needs survey and help determine numbers. The school retains ownership of space and has a partnership agreement as long as there is a need for child care. Centres pay rent according to board policy for exclusive space and are expected to share common space. Ther are 27 centres under this policy and about 161 other centres in school space.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1901 Day Nursery Centre established in Winnipeg by the Mothers' Association.

1971 Red River Community College initiated a two year Child Care Services diploma program.

1974 Provincial Child Day Care Program was established in the Department of Health and Social Development. It provided start-up and operating grants to non-profit centres and family day care homes and subsidies for eligible low-income families.

Manitoba Child Care Association was formed to represent child care workers, boards of directors, parents and child care advocates.

1983 The *Community Child Day Care Standards Act*, including provision for uniform licensing standards, staff qualifications and criteria for governance and board accountability, was passed.

1986 Government introduced salary enhancement grants to eligible non-profit centres.

1989 Provincial Task Force made recommendations for improvement in child care.

Child care workers held a one-day strike of protesting inadequate salaries.

1991 The government restructured funding, consolidating grants into one operating grant. This had the effect of reducing salary enhancement, redistributing nursery school grants, increasing eligibility level for partial subsidy and providing a daily payment to existing commercial centres on behalf of subsidized children in up to 25% of spaces. Parent fees increased by 18%.

1992 Licensing of new child care spaces was temporarily frozen and then allowed to resume after several months.

The report of the Working Group on Francophone Day Care was published. It provided recommendations regarding content, implementation guidelines and resource requirements for francophone child care services.

1993 The total number of subsidies was capped at 9,600. The licensing of new child care spaces was frozen for a period of time. The new Acknowledgement Form was introduced and became a requirement of licensing for those facilities willing to operate without grants or subsidies. Parents who received subsidy were required to pay an additional $1.40 per day per child. The "seeking employment" provision of subsidy was reduced from eight weeks to two weeks.

Operating grants to child care centres were reduced by 4% and to nursery schools by 50%. The difference between prior and present levels of government funding was to be made up through parent fees. The annual operating grants to the Manitoba Child Care Association and the Family Day Care Association were eliminated.

1996 The Child Day Care Fact Finding Mission, consisting of facility tours and public meetings, was undertaken with the aim of "simplifying and streamlining the existing child care system and providing more flexible support for working parents".

1996/1997 The number of subsidized spaces was frozen at 8,600, the utilization at that time. $4,060,500 of unexpended resources was cut from the Child Day Care budget, reducing it by 8.6%.

A series of administrative changes were made to the subsidy program. Full funding was extended to approximately 2,000 existing infant and preschool spaces that were either partially funded or unfunded.

A Regulatory Review Committee, appointed by the provincial government, was established to examine the existing regulations and provide recommendations for changes.

The Family Day Care Association of Manitoba and the Manitoba Child Care Association amalgamated under the name Manitoba Child Care Association.

1998 Several recommendations of the Regulatory Review Committee were incorporated into the budget announcement. An additional 1,000 subsidized spaces were provided and subsidy became "portable" (travels with the child to the facility of the parents' choice). Funding was provided for the development of new flexible child care arrangements.

The title of trained child care workers was officially changed to Early Childhood Educator (ECE). The classification of Child Care Worker I was collapsed into the Child Care Assistant category, leaving three levels of classification: Child Care Assistant (untrained) and ECE II and ECE III (trained).

Family child care providers who are classified as ECE II or ECE III were permitted to charge a higher fee consistent with fees charged at child care centres.

Effective June 1998, existing facilities could submit a plan for approval to establish a casual care fee to meet the needs of parents who only require care on a casual basis.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1999/2000 As part of a new "unit funding" model, operating grants were increased (15% infants, 10% preschool, 29.4% disabilities).

2000 Healthy Child Manitoba was established to provide early services (mostly targeted to high risk families and children) funded through the intergovernmental Early Childhood Development Initiative including:

- Baby First — home visiting and universal screening;
- Children's Special Services — expanded in-home services for children with disabilities;
- STOP FAS (Fetal Alcohol Syndrome) — three-year mentoring program for women at risk of having a child with FAS/FAE;
- Manitoba Education, Training and Youth Early Child-hood Development Initiative — "readiness to learn" program;
- Early Start — a three-year home-visiting program for families with children with special social needs currently attending licensed child care. It is intended to enhance children's readiness to learn prior to school entry.

2000/2001 Manitoba allocated $9.1 million to child care and fully implemented "unit funding" for centres. As a result, operating grants for centre infant and preschool spaces were increased to improve salaries for ECEs.

Maximum daily parent fees were increased by 2%.

Funding was extended to 1,500 previously unfunded school-age spaces in centres.

Operating grants to family child care homes increased by 2%.

The "seeking employment provision" of the subsidy program was extended from 10 days to 40 days.

2001 Manitoba allocated $4.7 million of the $11.1 million in Early Childhood Development Initiatives funding to child care along with $9 million allocated by the province.

February 2001 The Child Day Care Regulatory Review Committee's *A Vision for Child Care and Development in Manitoba* was released by the Minister of Family Services and Housing for public feedback. The paper identified four key elements for child care: universality, accessibility, affordability and quality. It made a series of recommendations in each of six components of the child care system: standards/quality care, funding, training and professionalism, governance, integrated service delivery, and public education.

The "vision" paper was released for public feedback. In a three month period there were more than 24,000 responses from the public with over 82% supporting the vision as presented.

April 2002 The province announced a new five year plan for child care. The first year of the plan supported:

- increased salaries for child care workers
- a public education and recruitment campaign to attract more students to the field
- mandatory training for new family child care providers in their first year of operation and incentives for existing providers and child care assistants to begin training. (It is expected that new family child care providers will be required to take an approved 40 hour course with possible financial incentives for its completion.)
- exploring incentives to encourage the increased use of licensed family child care homes for infant care
- examining the concept of a comprehensive nursery school program for three and four year olds
- freezing maximum fees parents pay as part of funded programs
- a review of the child care subsidy program and the non-subsidized daily fee.

By the end of March 2007, the plan's goals are as follows:

- wages and incomes for service providers will increase by 10%
- 450 more ECEs will be trained
- licensed family child care providers will be encouraged to complete designated training

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

- 5,000 more spaces will be funded
- Manitoba's existing nursery school program for three and four year olds will be expanded and more closely linked with other early childhood development initiatives
- subsidy income levels and allowable deductions will be adjusted so more low and middle income families are eligible for full or partial fee subsidies
- the $2.40 non-subsidized daily fee for subsidized families will be reduced
- more child care subsidies will be available to support newly created spaces.

2002 Manitoba First Nations Child Day Care Regulations & Monitoring Initiative began. Sponsored by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs with some funding from the provincial and federal governments, the initiative sets out to establish First Nations child care regulations, standards and monitoring systems that will address safety issues and quality care for First Nations children and their families.

KEY PROVINCIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Child Care Coalition of Manitoba
1376 Grant. Ave., 2nd Floor
Winnipeg, MB R3M 3Y4
Telephone: 204-489-0355
Facsimile: 204-487-2201

Manitoba Child Care Association
2350 McPhillips Street, 2nd Floor
Winnipeg, MB R2V 4J6
Telephone: 204-586-8587 or 1-888-323-4676
Facsimile: 204-589-5613
Email: info@mccahouse.org
Website: http://www.mccahouse.org

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

The Manitoba Teachers' Society
191 Harcourt Street
Winnipeg, MB R3J 3H2
Telephone: 204-888-7961
Facsimile: 204-831-0877

Saskatchewan

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 rounded estimate)

0-2 yrs	37,500
3-5	37,900
6-12	93,400
Total 0-12	168,900

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (2001 rounded estimate)

0-2 yrs	22,800
3-5	24,100
6-12	65,800
Total 0-12	112,600

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	14,325	4,365	90
5-9	13,710	3,985	40
10-14	11,585	3,715	30

Note: These 1996 data are the latest currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities (2001)

Age	Number of children with disabilities	Rate of children with disabilities (%)
0-4	850	1.7
5-9	1,860	3.2
10-14	2,780	4.3
Total 0-14 yrs	5,480	3.2

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2001 rounded estimate)

Age of youngest child	No. of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	21,000	64.9
3-5	14,000	73.5
6-15	46,000	81.7

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave

18 weeks.

Parental leave
Birth mothers may take 34 weeks immediately following maternity leave. The other parent may also take up to 37 weeks. These parental leaves may be taken consecutively.

Adoption leave
Primary caregiver may take 18 weeks of adoption leave, followed by 34 weeks of parental leave. Other parent may take up to 37 weeks which may be taken consecutively.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 12,140
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 5,280

Note: Provincial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION

Saskatchewan. Legislative Assembly. Education Act. 1995. E-02. Amended 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Saskatchewan Learning.

Saskatchewan is one of three provinces (and the territories) that continues to fund and deliver denominational education. Both "public" and Catholic school boards are publicly funded.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten is delivered in public schools under boards and private schools (as defined in *Education Act*). Part-time kindergarten is provided for five year olds. The *Education Act* requires at least 80 full school day equivalents. Schedules and total time vary by school division.

Kindergarten is not compulsory (although more than 90% attend) nor is it an entitlement; provision is determined by school divisions.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

Pre-kindergarten may be provided part-day for children "at risk" in targeted communities that meet specified eligibility criteria (low socio-economic status, 40% Aboriginal population, high proportion of children with special needs). Schools in these communities may be designated "community schools" and if they choose to have pre-K, receive provincial funds.

Selected three and four year old children in community schools are referred by public health nurses, school board offices or Social Services. The family may also make a request because of inability to afford other options or the child may meet criteria for special education. The parents must make a commitment to participate in the program, which must be offered for a minimum of 12 hours per week. There are 89 pre-K programs.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

AGE ELIGIBILITY

There is no provincial kindergarten eligibility age; this varies by school division. (For Grade 1, a child must be six years old by December 31.)

CLASS SIZE

There is no provincial class size limit in kindergartens. However, some school divisions set limits.

The average/mean class size is not known.

There is no provincial policy regarding teaching assistants.

In pre-kindergartens, there is a staff:child ratio of 1:8 with a group size of 16 (one teacher and one assistant).

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a provincial policy (Special Education policy for K-Grade 12); children with special needs are included in regular kindergarten.

Provincial funds are provided for extra supports for children with identified special needs such as special needs assistants

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

Five year olds (2001): 11,961

Three and four year olds: approximately 1,400

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Must have Saskatchewan teacher certification. There are no ECE requirements.

No qualifications are needed for teaching assistants.

CURRICULUM

There is a provincial kindergarten curriculum, Children First (1994). The approach is "learning through play" in a developmentally appropriate curriculum.

Pre-K
Schools are expected to develop a program based on the kindergarten curriculum and to collect data and information for evaluation purposes.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Average per child spending on kindergarten

Grants per child
Rural: $2,189
Regina/Saskatoon: $2,069

Total spending on kindergarten
Information not available.

SPECIAL FEATURES

See pre-K programs for children "at risk".

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

Saskatchewan. Legislative Assembly. *The Child Care Act*. Bill 8, 1990 as amended by the Statutes of Saskatchewan, 2000.

Saskatchewan. Legislative Assembly. *The Child Care Regulations*. 2001.

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Deborah Bryck, Director
Child Day Care Division
Department of Social Services
1920 Broad Street
Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3V6
Telephone: (306) 787-3855
Facsimile: (306) 787-2134

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted: 8

Figure includes the caregiver's own children under 13 years. Of the eight, five may be younger than six years; of these five, only two may be younger than 30 months.

Nursery schools
Part-time preschools that operate less than three hours/ day or three days/week are not regulated.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Child care centres
Child care centres provide care to children in group settings. Centres must have a license from the Child Day Care Branch and may care for up to 90 children from six weeks to and including 12 years. Child care centres include non-profit services, governed by parent boards of directors, and for-profit services that have parent advisory committees.

School-age child care
Care outside of school hours for children 0-12 in a mixed-age centre, family child care home or in a program solely for school-age children. Programs in schools solely for school-aged children are not regulated.

Family child care homes
Family child care homes are operated by individuals in their principal place of residence. A person providing these services may care for up to eight children depending on the children's ages (five children younger than six years; of these five, only two may be younger than 30 months).

Group family child care homes
Group family child care homes are operated by individuals in a residence and are licensed for up to 12 children. The caregiver must have an assistant adult caregiver in attendance when the numbers or ages of children permitted in family child care homes are exceeded (more than eight children, more than five preschool, or more than three infants).

Teen student support family child care homes
Teen student support homes are family child care homes formally associated with a high school providing child care services to children of parents attending the high school. Teen student support family child care homes are licensed to care for up to six children, depending on their ages.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Child Care Inclusion Program provides funding to child care facilities to include children with diverse needs in child care programs. Individual inclusion grants are available to licensed centres and child care homes to include children experiencing a delay or a condition of risk that may result in a delay. For a centre to receive this grant, the child needs a referral but not necessarily a diagnosis and is required to attend the program for a minimum of 20 hours per month. The amount of the grant varies from $200 to $300 per month depending on the need within three defined levels. This grant is an entitlement for eligible children.

An enhanced accessibility grant of up to $1,500/month may be paid to assist with the additional cost of including a child with exceptionally high diverse needs. For this grant, the child must have diagnosis and require significant additional support and the parents must be enrolled in an education program or employed. There may be waiting lists for enhanced accessibility grants if the budget is fully expended.

A training and resource grant of $100 ($200 for exceptional needs) per child with diverse needs may be available as well as a grant of up to $600 ($1,200 for exceptional needs) for adapted equipment required to meet the needs of the child.

Inclusion grants are approved for a one year period and then are reviewed; enhanced accessibility grants for a maximum of six months, after which time the facility must reapply for funding.

Funding for inclusive child care is intended to support the centre as a whole and not to provide a worker allocated to a specific child. Parents of children with special needs pay for the space, but not the additional supports.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Saskatchewan does not license child care programs on-reserve.

The First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative has resulted in the development of approximately 45 on-reserve child care centres.

Approximately 15% of all licensed child care programs not on-reserve have a strong Aboriginal program component.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)

Centre-based spaces	
– Infants	283
– Toddlers	920
– Preschool	2,903
– School-age	845
Total centre-based spaces	4,951
Family child care	2,215
Total regulated spaces	7,166

Children with special needs in regulated child care (2001) 275

Note: This includes the estimated number of children with diverse needs in four centres receiving pilot funding of $75 per licensed space.

Children receiving subsidies (2001) 3,684

Subsidized children as a proportion of total regulated spaces (2001) 51%

Sponsorship of regulated full-time centre spaces (2001)

Non-profit	4,878
For-profit	73

Note: 32 of the non-profit spaces are in a municipally operated centre.

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum centre size 90 spaces

Note: Maximum of 12 infant spaces.

Maximum staff:child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group size
Infants	1:3	6
Toddlers	1:5	10
Preschool (30 mos-6 yrs)	1:10	20
School-age (6-12 yrs)	1:15	30

Staff qualification requirements

Saskatchewan has three levels of certification:

- ECE III – two year diploma in child care or equivalent
- ECE II – one year certificate in child care or equivalent
- ECE I – 120 hour child care orientation course or equivalent provided through regional community colleges

Centre directors hired after July 2001 must meet or exceed the qualifications of an ECE III (two year diploma in child care or equivalent). Directors appointed to a centre director position prior to July 2001 must meet or exceed the qualifications of an ECE II (one year certificate or equivalent) but must upgrade to a two year diploma if they accept employment with another centre.

Effective January 2002, all staff employed in a centre for at least 65 hours per month must meet the qualifications of an ECE I (120 hour child care orientation course or equivalent provided through regional community colleges). By January 2005, 30% of staff must have a one year certificate in child care or equivalent. By January 2007, a further 20% of staff must have a two year diploma or equivalent.

Individuals must apply to the Child Day Care Branch for certification. Child Day Care sets out the requirements for classification, and the courses required to achieve equivalency status.

All staff members in each centre must have completed a first-aid and CPR course.

Parent involvement
Non-profit child care centres are administered by parent boards; 51% of the board members must be parents who are using the program. For-profit child care centres are required to have parent advisory committees.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Thirteen provincial program consultants develop, license, monitor and consult with both centres and family child care homes and conduct two visits annually. A provincial program consultant is not required to have a background in early childhood education.

A facility may be issued a conditional license; conditions may be continued as long as necessary, and may be amended as required. If the unmet requirements cannot or have not been remedied, a provisional license can be issued as long as the health and safety of children is not at risk. If the noncompliance is not corrected within the specified period (to a maximum of six months) the license will be revoked. There is no appeal board or formal appeal mechanism but the facility may appeal directly to the Minister of Social Services.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

Regulation
Individually licensed.

Maximum capacity

Family child care homes
Up to eight children (including the provider's own children under 13 years) between six weeks and 12 years. Of the eight children, only five may be younger than six years; of these five, only two may be younger than 30 months.

Group family child care homes
Up to 12 children (including the provider's and assistant's own children under 13 years). Of the 12 children, only 10 may be younger than six years, of these 10, only five may be younger than 30 months and only three younger than 18 months.

Teen student support family child care homes
Up to six children (including the provider's own children under 13 years). Of these six children, no more than four may be younger than six years; of these four, only two may be younger than 30 months.

Provider qualification requirements
Must be 18 years old. All require an orientation session with a program consultant and first-aid/CPR training, plus six hours of professional development workshops each licensing year.

Providers whose homes are licensed after July 2001 must have a 40 hour introductory early childhood education course within the first year of licensing.

Providers in group family child care homes have three years to complete the 120 hour orientation course (ECE I). Assistants require first-aid and CPR training, plus six hours of professional development each licensing year.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Program consultants conduct annual visits to renew licenses in addition to periodic drop-in visits throughout the year.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents.

There is a two step eligibility process. To be eligible for consideration, parents must be employed or seeking employment, attending school or a training program, receiving medical treatment, or have a child with special needs. If the parent meets one of these criteria, an income test is applied.

Subsidies are available only to non-profit child care centres or regulated family child care homes. The minimum user fee is 10% of the actual cost of care. Centres and regulated family child care homes may surcharge subsidized parents above the 10% minimum.

The average cost to a subsidized parent above the subsidy (surcharge) is 30-40% of the fee. The Child Day Care Branch pays the parent portion of the fees of children with diverse needs whose parents are on social assistance and not involved in a training, employment or rehabilitation program. The funding is paid to the centre or regulated family child care provider on behalf of the parent.

Although the number of subsidies is not capped, the total funding available for subsidies is limited. Centres must be approved to receive subsidies and new centres may be on a waiting list. Subsidies follow the child (provided the child attends a centre that is approved for subsidy).

Parents may be eligible for subsidy for up to four months while actively looking for work. A two parent family in which both parents are looking for work is not eligible for a subsidy. A parent who does not secure employment within the four months may not reapply for subsidy for the purpose of looking for work for one year unless he/she has been in school or a training program for at least four months.

Funding is provided to parents on social assistance who are involved in an employment, training or rehabilitation program to pay for the parent portion of regulated care, or the community average cost of unregulated care. Payment is made to the parent and is paid for by the Saskatchewan Assistance Program.

Eligibility for child care fee subsidy (gross income, 2001)

	Turning point	Break-event point
1 parent, 1 child	$19,668	$31,920
1 parent, 2 children	20,868	45,720

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases.

(Note: Saskatchewan uses gross income level to determine eligibility; other provinces use net income. The figures, therefore, are not directly comparable across jurisdictions).

Maximum monthly subsidy by age of child (2001)

	Regulated centre	Regulated family child care homes
Infants	$325	$265
Toddlers	285	265
Preschool	235	235
School-age	200*	200*

**Increases to $235/month for the summer months.*

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

One-time funding

Start-up grants

Child care centres	$600/space
Family child care homes	$400/home
Family child care homes (north)	$600/home
Group family child care homes	$600/home
Goup family child care homes (north)	$900/home
School-age	$300/space

Tuition reimbursement

$70 per class, or $200 per orientation course per centre staff

Recurring funding

Early childhood services grants

Infants	$226.67/space/month
Toddler	$136/space/month
Preschool	$68.00/space/month
School-age	$45.33/space/month

Grants are equivalent to $680/month per staff as required by child:staff ratios

Teen support services grants

Centres

– $325/infant space/month

– $290/toddler space/month

Homes

–$350/designated space/month (maximum three spaces)

Equipment grants

Family child care homes	$100/space/year
Northern centres	$100/space/year

Special needs funding

Individual inclusion

– Grants to assist centres and homes with costs with the additional supervision costs associated with caring for a child with diverse needs.

Level I program	$200/month
Level II program	$250/month
Level III program	$300/month

Enhanced accessibility

– Grants to assist centres and homes with the additional supervision costs associated with the caring for a child with exceptionally high diverse needs whose parents are working or in training — up to $1,500/month.

Training and resource grant

– $100/child with diverse needs ($200 for exceptionally high diverse needs)

Adapted equipment grant

– $600/year ($1,200 in exceptional circumstances)

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidies	$9,850,392*

One-time funding

Start-up grants	118,200
Special needs equipment grant	10,199

Recurring funding

Centre operating grant	3,708,683
Family child care home equipment grant	240,750
Northern equipment grant	22,800
Northern transportation grant	10,200
Inclusive child care grants	754,750
Teen/infant centre grants	711,700
Preschool support programs	470,563

(See HISTORY, 1997 for details)

Other funding

Community solutions	316,746
Pilot projects	116,928
Total	$16,311,911

**The subsidy funding includes $124,000 paid to regulated child care facilities for the parent portion of children with diverse needs whose parents are on social assistance and not involved in an employment, training or rehabilitation program.*

Other funding

Funding from the Social Assistance Program paid directly to parents on social assistance who are involved in an employment, training or rehabilitation program. ($1,000,000 for the parent portion of regulated care and $800,000 for unregulated care.)

SALARIES

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (2001)

$10.95

Source: Figure provided by the Child Day Care Division. Calcu-lated adding the impact of government wage funding to You Bet I Care! (1998) data as a baseline.

Family child care

Information not available.

FEES (2001)

Median monthly parent fees for full-time centre-based care (2001)

Infants (Age 0-17 mos)	$481
Toddlers (Age 18 mos-3 yrs)	420
Preschool (Age 3-5.11 yrs)	384
School-age	277

Source: Figure provided by the Child Day Care Branch from the database of attendance records of the child care centres.

Average monthly fee in family child care (2001)

Infants (Age 0-17 mos)	$435
Toddlers (Age 18 mos-3 yrs)	413
Preschool (Age 3-5.11 yrs)	377
School-age	286

Source: Figure provided by the Child Day Care Branch from the database of attendance records of family child care homes.

ADMINISTRATION

The Child Day Care Branch (Income Security Division), Department of Social Services administers the legislation and is responsible for initiating child care services,

consultation, and standards and training. Monitoring, licensing, and consultation are provided through two regional offices and five sub-offices.

MUNICIPAL AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLES

Saskatchewan legislation provides for child care centres administered by municipalities. As of 2001, one centre had been licensed under this provision.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

A government-appointed Child Care Advisory Board advises on child care issues and may assist in the establishment of long-term program directions.

Currently, new non-profit or for-profit centres and family child care homes apply to the province for a license to operate. If the regulations are met, a license is granted. Subsidies and grants are subject to approval and availability.

There is neither a formal written government statement of principles for child care nor a plan.

RELATED SERVICES

Kids First
Established in 2001, this is a five-year initiative to provide "early childhood supports" targeted to "high risk" families and their children. It is the responsibility of the Early Childhood Development Unit overseen by the departments of Health, Social Services, Education, Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs. Unit staff assist targeted communities with the development and implementation of the program. The initiative contains several program elements including early childhood education, child care and parent support, home visiting to identified families and pre-natal outreach and screening to assist in Fetal Alcohol Syndrome prevention.

Funded through the intergovernmental Early Childhood Development Initiative (ECDI), $8.4 million of the $10 million 2001 funding is allocated to Kids First to address the needs of vulnerable children and their families during the pre-natal period to age five. In its initial year, nine targeted communities in the province are receiving funding.

Community Solutions Program
The Community Solutions Program provides funding to community organizations for projects that promote and support inclusion of children and families with special needs, that support labour force attachment, that are workplace sponsored or that meet the needs of rural or northern communities. Projects must have an attachment to a regulated child care service.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1975 New child care regulations were passed under the authority of *The Family Services Act* describing eligibility, the process of licensing, standards of operation and available grants and subsidies. Family day

care homes and child care centres that were incorporated, non-profit and parent controlled could be licensed and were eligible for funding.

1980 An interdepartmental government report, *The Day Care Review*, identified affordability, availability and quality as key issues.

Action Child Care, an advocacy group based in Saskatoon, was established.

1980s Period characterized by very little expansion in services or funding and growth of unlicensed centres. (It should be noted that it was possible to operate an unlicensed centre because there was no limit set on the number of children in unregulated child care).

1990 The *Child Care Act* and *Regulations* were proclaimed. They required licensing of all centres and establishing training requirements of 130 hours.

1992 The Minister of Social Services appointed a Child Care Advisory Board to advise on current child care issues and to assist in the establishment of long-time program directions; this included eight community participants representing provincial and national child care organizations. The province introduced a tuition subsidy of one third of the cost of the 130 hour required orientation course for child care staff.

A review of child care in Saskatchewan was completed, resulting in the report *Breaking New Ground in Child Care* which provided a framework for child care reform in Saskatchewan. The review identified these guiding principles for child care:

- parents should be free to choose their preferred child care (licensed or unlicensed);
- affordability should not be a barrier to choice;
- child care should be community-based and provide responsive programming.

1993 Grants were introduced to encourage initiation of work-related child care centres. They will cover 50% of development and capital costs up to a total of $10,000.

1995 A number of initiatives in response to the principles for reform identified in the child care review were introduced. An education campaign was introduced to assist parents in selecting and monitoring child care arrangements. Child care resource centres were established throughout the province. Subsidies for infants and toddlers were increased and new child development grant rates were established. Funds were also made available for the development of pilot projects in rural and northern Saskatchewan.

Differential subsidies by age group were introduced.

1996 A child care wage enhancement was announced as part of Saskatchewan's *Action Plan for Children*. The grant is for trained staff (those who had completed the 130 hour training program) and is based on required staff: child ratios. In 1996, the grant was $75/staff/month and was increased in each of the three subsequent years. By 1999/2000, the grant was $262.50/staff/month.

1997 A one time capital grant program for renovations was announced.

Saskatchewan Education introduced a pre-kindergarten prevention and early intervention program for three and four year old children "at risk".

Development of Aboriginal child care continued with the aim of a child care centre on each of Saskatchewan's 72 reserves if it is appropriate (most centres are quite small).

Saskatchewan Education and Saskatchewan Social Services released *La Loche and Prince Albert Preschool Support Pilot Projects: Year Three Report and Program Summary*. It describes the implementation and evaluation of two preschool pilot projects established. The projects emphasize self-help, intellectual and social skill development. Medical care, such as immunizations and dental checkups were part of the program.

The report states that most children showed gains on observational checklists, particularly in areas of social and intellectual development, as well as improved health and easier transition to kindergarten. In addition, it notes that parents participated more in upgrading programs and that family function and parental self-esteem also improved.

After the pilot period ended, the programs were licensed as child care programs and were provided with full operational funding, as there were no other mechanisms or alternatives to maintain viability.

A child care review identified a need for flexible options for licensed child care for rural Saskatchewan. Extended family day care homes each accommodating a maximum of 12 children were piloted in rural communities.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1999 A review of the Child Development (special needs) program was completed which resulted in a new direction away from individual assessments and supports to inclusive and mainstream services. The Community Solutions Grant was created to support inclusive services and partnerships, the Enhanced Accessibility Grant was implemented to support access for very high need children of working families, and a Centre Inclusion Grant (block funding) was piloted in four centres with large numbers of children with special needs.

1998 A national study of wages, working conditions and quality, *You Bet I Care!*, found that — based on a sample of full-time centres for children 0-6 years and regulated family child care — Saskatchewan scored 4.1 on the ECERS-R (preschool rooms), 4.2 on the ITERS (infant rooms), and 4.5 on the FDCRS (family child care). (See Table 25 for elaboration.)

2000 The wage enhancement grant was amalgamated with the centre operating grant to become the Early Childhood Services Grant. The grant is based on the required staff:child ratios and is currently the equivalent of $680/month/required staff.

2000 and 2001 *The Child Care Act* and accompanying Regulations were amended to allow for group family child care homes to change the funding mechanisms and to increase early childhood training requirements.

2001 $1.019 million of the $10 million in Early Child-hood Development Initiative funding was allocated to child care for:

- enhanced operating funding to child care centres
- training and equipment grants for family child care
- professional development.

In addition, $370,000 was allocated to the Early Childhood Intervention Program (ECIP), $200,000 to Saskatchewan Learning to expand their pre-kindergarten programs and $100,000 for an initiative to reduce infant mortality. The balance ($8.4 million) was allocated to Kids First (see related dervices).

KEY PROVINCIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Saskatchewan Early Childhood Association
510 Cynthia Street
Saskatoon, SK S7L 7K7
Telephone: 306-975-0875
Facsimile: 306-975-0879

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation
2317 Arlington Ave.
Saskatoon, SK S7J 2H8
Telephone: 306-373-1660 or 1-800-667-7762
Facsimile: 306-374-1122
Email: stf@stf.sk.ca
Website: www.stf.sk.ca

Alberta

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	112,300
3-5	121,000
6-12	288,500
Total 0-12	521,900

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (2001 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	62,200
3-5	72,700
6-12	205,700
Total 0-12	340,500

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	15,355	5,770	260
5-9	15,205	5,415	260
10-14	13,285	4,955	210

Note: These 1996 data are the latest currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities (2001)

Age	Number of children with disabilities	Rate of children with disabilities (%)
0-4	3,240	1.8
5-9	8,980	4.5
10-14	10,770	5.1
Total 0-14 yrs	22,980	3.9

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2001 rounded estimate)

Age of youngest child	No. of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	56,000	59.5
3-5	47,000	71.4
6-15	147,000	83.5

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave
15 weeks.

Parental leave
37 weeks may be taken by one parent or shared between two parents but the total combined leave cannot exceed 37 weeks. The legislation stipulates that there is no requirement to grant parental leave to more than one parent at a time if both parents of a child work for the same employer.

Adoption leave
37 weeks. May be taken by one parent or shared between two parents but the total combined leave cannot exceed 37 weeks.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 37,006
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 17,850

Note: Provincial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION

Government of Alberta. Legislative Assembly. *School Act*. 2000. Early Childhood Services Policy (ECS) 1.13

Early Childhood Services Regulation 31/2002

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Alberta Learning.

Alberta is one of three provinces (and the territories) that continues to fund and deliver denominational education. Both "public" and Catholic school boards are publicly funded.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES

Early Childhood Services (ECS) is under the authority of Alberta Learning. ECS may be offered by public schools, private schools, private ECS operators (non-profit society or for-profit company under Section 9 of Company's Act).

Funding is provided to approved ECS operators on a per diem basis ($2,120/child) to deliver the program. The program must offer 475 instructional hours. Parents pay approximately $50/year to offset non-instructional costs such as supplies, snacks and field trips and additional program hours. If the program is provided at a child care centre, parents may be eligible for child care subsidy for the balance of the day. Full subsidy is given to eligible families with kindergarten children if they are in the child care component for more than 100 hours. The schedule of the "normal day" depends on the operator.

ECS is not compulsory and is an entitlement. 98% of five year olds are in kindergarten.

AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old by February 28.

2 1/2 years if the child has a severe disability; 3 1/2 if child has a mild or moderate disability

CLASS SIZE

There is no policy on class size.

There is no provincial policy on teaching assistants. They are hired based on the budget at the discretion of the operator.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Integration to the fullest extent possible is recommended by Alberta Learning's Inclusion Policy. Extra supports are available; appropriate funding may be allocated to specialists.

Approximately 4,100 children in ECS have severe disabilities; approximately 14% have mild/moderate disabilities.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT (2001)

Five year olds	26,191
Four year olds	14,757
Three year olds	1,329
Two year olds	250
Total	42,527

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

A valid Alberta Teaching Certificate (B.Ed.) is required. There are no specific early childhood requirements for ECS teachers.

CURRICULUM

There is a mandatory provincial Kindergarten Program Statement. It has defined child outcomes in specific areas (language arts, physical skills and well-being, etc.).

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Average expenditure per ECS student
$2,184 (basic instruction funding).

Total spending on kindergarten
Information not available.

SPECIAL FEATURES

There is no ESL or inner-city policy.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

Alberta. Legislative Assembly. *Social Care Facilities Licensing Act*. Chapter S-10, RSA 2000

Alberta. Legislative Assembly. *Alberta Day Care Regulation* 180/2000

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Lynn Jerchel
Manager, Child Care and Resources for Children with Disabilities
Alberta Children's Services
Sterling Place
9940 – 106th Street, 6th floor
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2N2
Telephone: (780) 422-4538
Facsimile: (780) 427-3297

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted: 6

A maximum of three children may be under the age of two years. Figure includes the caregiver's own children under 12 years.

Out-of-school child care programs
Programs for children 6-12 years outside school hours. Out-of-school care is licensed by the province under the Social Care Facilities Licensing Act (building, health, fire and zoning as well as assurance that the care is "appropriate"). There are, however, no provincial child care standards. Several of the 227 municipalities in Alberta have set standards for school-age care and receive umbrella funding from the province that they may choose to use for school-age subsidies. In other locations, there is no regulated school-age care or subsidy available. In many municipalities, staff from the regional Child and Family Services Authorities (CFSAs) work with centres to ensure that care is adequate.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Day care centres
Seven or more children under seven years of age who are not yet in grade one, in a group setting for more than three but less than 24 consecutive hours/day.

Nursery schools
Part-time programs (maximum three hours/day) for seven or more children aged three to six years.

Approved family day homes
Care in a provider's home for up to six children under 11 years of age with a maximum of three children under three years old, with no more than two children under two years old (including the provider's own children under 11 years). Providers are under contract with a for-profit or non-profit family day home agency. Agencies are not licensed but are contracted by the provincial government to administer and monitor approved family day care homes.

Licensed drop-in centres
Programs for children under seven years of age that are permitted to operate with lower staff/child ratios than day care centres. No child may attend for more than 40 hours/month.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Inclusive Child Care Program in Alberta provides for inclusion of children with special needs. Funding varies depending on the special needs of the child, the type of service required and the region. Funds are paid to contracted operators on behalf of eligible children. Additional training for staff working with children with special needs is not required in legislation.

The program may be administered differently in different regions. In 2001, six of the 18 Child and Family Service Authorities provided funding for inclusive child care.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Child care centres on-reserve are not licensed. However, under an agreement between Alberta and the federal government, on-reserve child care centres are eligible for federal government funding equivalent to parent subsidies if provincial licensing standards are met (see Table 2 for more information).

As of December 2001, there were 22 approved child care centres on-reserve with a capacity of 1,069 spaces.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)
(includes full-time, part-time and drop-in centres)

Centre-based	
Infants (0-18 mos)	3,996
Preschoolers	
– Full-day child care	23,391
– Part-day nursery schools	13,624
Family child care	6,682

There are approximately 2,000 family child care providers and 90 family child care agencies.

Total regulated spaces	47,693
School-age child care	15,890

See description on previous page.

Children with special needs in regulated child care (2001) 400

Children receiving subsidies (2001) 10,490

Subsidized children as a proportion of total regulated spaces (2001) 22%

Sponsorship of full-time regulated centre spaces (2001)

Non-profit	18,080
For-profit	22,931

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum centre size 80 spaces

Maximum staff:child ratios and group sizes

Child care centres

Age	Ratio	Max. group size
0-12 mos	1:3	6
13-18 mos	1:4	8
19-35 mos	1:6	12
3-5 yrs	1:8	16
5-6 yrs	1:10	20

Drop-in centres

Age	Ratio	Max. group size
0-12 mos	1:5	10
13-18 mos	1:5	10
19-35 mos	1:8	16
3-5 yrs	1:12	24
5-6 yrs	1:15	30

Nursery schools

Age	Ratio
3-5 yrs	1:12

Note: There are no maximum group sizes for nursery schools.

Staff qualification requirements

Alberta has three qualification levels:

- Level three requires completion of a two year ECE diploma from an Alberta public college or an equivalent level of training, or a four year bachelor of Educa-tion degree with a major in ECE.
- Level two requires completion of a one year ECE certificate from an Alberta public college or an equivalent level of training, or a four year Bachelor of Elementary Education from a recognized post-secondary institution.
- Level one requires completion of the government's orientation course or equivalent course work equivalent of at least 50 hours related to ECE.

Centre directors are required to have level three certification or exemption. One in four staff in each centre is required to have level two certification. All other staff are required to have a level one certification.

Certification is the process used by Alberta Children's Services to review training and determine eligibility for one of the three levels of certification. To be eligible to work in a child care centre in Alberta, all staff must apply for certification to the Day Care Staff Qualification Office. The Day Care Staff Qualification Office is also responsible for the delivery of the level one orientation course, which is contracted out to public colleges, private vocational schools, individual instructors, and is taught in some high schools for credit. Funding is provided to the institutions to deliver the course at no cost to the participant.

Parent involvement

Not specified

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Quarterly licensing inspections are conducted by regional child care specialists. Child care specialists currently operate under a Human Service Worker classification and come from a variety of backgrounds, including family studies and early childhood education.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

If a centre is in noncompliance with the regulations, a series of actions may occur, beginning with a formal written order directing the centre to comply within a specific time frame, up to cancellation of the license, or refusal to renew the license. There is a formal appeal board set up by the minister to hear appeals if a license is cancelled or refused. The legislation allows the decision of the appeal panel to be appealed through the Court of Queen's Bench. Its decision is binding.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE (APPROVED FAMILY DAY HOMES)

Regulation
Family day homes are not licensed. The government enters into contracts with family day care home agencies to approve and monitor providers according to provincial standards. Agencies contract with individual care providers.

Maximum capacity
Up to six children under 11 years (including the provider's own children under 11 years) with a maximum of three children under three years old and no more than two children under two years old.

Provider qualification requirements
No training requirements.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Agency staff visit family day homes to ensure providers are operating according to provincial standards. Provin-cial staff monitor agencies and homes on a regular basis. The minimum ministry-wide requirement is four times per year.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents. Children receiving subsidies may enrol in non-profit or for-profit licensed child care centres and approved family day care homes. Subsidies are not available in drop-in centres or nursery schools.

There is a two-step eligibility process. Parents must first demonstrate need for subsidized child care such as being employed or enrolled in a training program, or a parent's or child's special need. An income test is then applied.

There is no minimum user fee for subsidized parents but centres and family day home agencies may surcharge above the subsidy rates. There is no cap on the number of subsidies in any licensed program but parents must secure a space before applying for subsidy. Application for subsidy may be made either by mail or in person.

Provincial child care subsidies may not be used for unregulated care.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 2001)

	Turning point	Break-even point Centre-based care	Break-even point Family child care
1 parent, 1 child	$20,520	$31,680	$27,480
2 parents, 2 children	24,120	44,520	38,280

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases.

Maximum subsidy/child/month (2001)

Infants in child care centres	$475
Other ages in child care centres	380
Children in family day care	300

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

One-time funding
None

Child and Family Service Authorities may choose to use funds from related children's programs for child care if funds permit. This has resulted in some one-time grants made for minor capital and other one-time expenses.

Child care programs are encouraged to go to the business community for additional funding. Many non-profit centres get dollars from the lottery fund of Alberta Gaming (ministry of gambling) for one-time expenses.

Recurring funding

Family day home agency administration fee
A monthly administrative fee is paid to approved family day home agencies, which contract with the Ministry to recruit, train and supervise individual family child care providers, collect fees, and pay providers. Both non-profit and for-profit programs are eligible for this funding program.

0-35 months	
– First 10 children enrolled	$95
– Each of next 10 children enrolled	$63
3-6 years	
– First 10 children enrolled	$65
– Each of next 10 children enrolled	$50

Special needs funding
Funding is provided to assist in the inclusion of children with special needs. Funding may be used for specialized resource staff or for consultation and training services. Funding varies depending on the special needs of the child, the type of service required and the region. Funds are paid to contracted operators on behalf of eligible children.

The program may be administered differently in different regions. There is no upper limit of funding to an individual program.

Both non-profit and for-profit programs are eligible to apply for special needs funding.

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidies	$49,800,000
One-time funding	None
Recurring funding	
Family day home agency admin. fee	5,600,000
Inclusive Child Care Funding	2,100,000
Total	$57,500,000

Other funding
Funding from Human Resources and Employment for families on social assistance in the Supports for Independence Program for the parent portion of fees for regulated and unregulated care $800,000

SALARIES

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full- and part-time staff combined) (1998)

Assistant teachers	$7.90
Teachers	8.36
Teacher-directors	9.90
Administrative directors	12.73

Source: You Bet I Care! More recent information not available.

Family child care
Information not available.

FEES

Average fee for centre-based child care (2001)
$522.84

Source: Information provided by Alberta Children's Services from the Child Care Information System.

Average daily fee in family child care
Information not available.

ADMINISTRATION

Since April 1999, child care services have been administered through 18 Child and Family Services Authorities (CFSAs) which are responsible for service delivery. The province provides funding to each authority which allocates funds for local services and is accountable to the Minister of Children's Services for the use of public funds.

Responsibility for setting standards, subsidy policy, strategic policy, services for children with special needs, and staff qualifications remain with the province. A provincial subsidy system remains although the regional authorities may enhance it if they wish. Staff of the Ministry of Children's Services also provide resources, support and programming advice to the CFSAs.

The work of the CFSAs is overseen by community-based boards appointed by government. Each authority operates under a province-wide set of standards, and has flexibility in service delivery. CFSAs oversee planning and development, and administration of children's services, including child care.

Child care specialists (formerly licensing officers) and subsidy workers are hired by the authorities but remain provincial government employees.

MUNICIPAL OR OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

The provincial government allocates block funds to 277 municipalities for preventive social service needs through the Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) program. Each municipal FCSS program allocates these resources.

Out-of-school care is the responsibility of municipal authorities. Some municipal FCSS programs have chosen to allocate their block funds to provide out-of-school care programming and subsidies. Eighteen of 277 municipalities provide some funding to child care. This may include subsidies for school-age programs and some limited funding for low income families to cover part of the parent fee not covered by provincial subsidy.

The municipalities of Jasper and Beaumont operate the two remaining municipal centres in the province. Staff in the programs are municipal employees and salaries are 2-3 times the provincial average. The municipalities provide additional funding to offset the operating costs.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

There is no provincial plan for the development of child care.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1942 Alberta signed the *Dominion-Provincial Agreement* with the federal government but did not establish child care centres. The need for child care was refuted by an advisory committee.

1966 Community Day Nursery, the first centre to receive public funds, was opened in Edmonton. *The Preventive Social Services Act* delegated decision-making authority for child care to municipalities and introduced 80/20 cost-sharing arrangements with participating municipalities. Public and non-profit centres were able to receive subsidies for eligible low-income families.

1971 The Alberta Association for Young Children was established.

1978 *The Social Care Facilities Licensing Act* included the first legislated child care regulations and changed funding from supporting child care program grants to fee subsidies for low income families.

1980 The provincial government took over the municipal share of funding of subsidies and administration of care services for children up to six years. Operating allowances (operating grants to non-profit and for-profit child care centres) were introduced.

1981 Standards were established for family day homes.

A policy was developed and special funding authorized for an Integrated Day Care Service (integration of children with special needs into mainstream programs).

1990 Alberta's first staff qualification requirements were introduced. *Focus on Children*, a report of the Office of the Commission of Services for Children, calls for more local control of children's services. An announcement was made that operating grants would be phased out within the year.

1992 Policy recommendations for child care centres were developed by the Parent Advisory Working Committee and some were adopted by the provincial government.

1994 A three year budget plan effectively suspended the continued implementation of 1990 funding reforms. The goal of the three year budget plan was to reduce provincial child care expenditure by $14 million or 20% over three years.

A report by the Office of the Provincial Ombudsman identified inadequacies in the regulatory system in Alberta. It recommended improving procedures for complaint investigation, compliance management and investigating serious occurrences.

1995 The province created several positions for "eligibility review officers" to review child care subsidy claims and as a result, 20% of families lost their subsidy. As a result of both the loss of subsidized parents and operating grants, some centres closed, particularly in the commercial sector which saw a 13% reduction in spaces.

1998 Preschool grants were reduced from $85/month/ space to $29/month/space and were entirely eliminated in April 1, 1999. Savings realized from the reduction and elimination of operating grants and some reinvestment from the National Child Benefit Reinvestment Strategy were used to raise both eligibility levels and rates for subsidy.

1999 The Ministry of Children's Services was established. In 1999, the province turned responsibility for child care services over to 18 Child and Family Services Authorities (CFSAs). See administration for details.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1998 The Alberta Children and Youth Initiative is a partnership of government ministries that work together on issues affecting children and youth. Its vision is to ensure that Alberta's children and youth are well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy. Its key initiatives include combating Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, promoting children's mental health, and improving supports and resources for children, youth and their families.

1998 A national study of wages, working conditions and quality, *You Bet I Care!*, found that — based on a sample of full-time centres for children 0-6 years and regulated family child care — Alberta scored 5.1 on the ECERS-R (preschool rooms), 5.1 on the ITERS (infant rooms), and 4.2 on the FDCRS (family child care). (See Table 25 for elaboration.)

2001-2002 ECS Policy and Regulation have been revised. The new Day Care Regulation was enacted in 2000. The Day Care Regulation Review was initiated as a result of an Alberta Government initiative to "streamline, simplify requirements and reduce duplication". Completion of the review followed a two phase consultative process with day care operators and stakeholder groups. The regulation includes elimination of regulations already covered by other ministries, revising outdated stipulations and alignment with the community delivery system of Child and Family Services Authorities.

Training for front line government licensing staff (Child Care Specialists) has occurred in the use of the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale–Revised Edition (ECERS–R), Infant Toddler Environment Rating Scale (ITERS), and Family Day Care Rating Scale (FDCRS).

According to Ministry officials, challenges in child care include staff turnover and low wages of child care workers.

In January 2001, the Children's Services Ministry established the Day Care Review Working Committee consisting of child care stakeholders to analyze and propose solutions to the challenges facing child care delivery in Alberta.

Alberta's 2001/2002 Early Childhood Development Initiative allocation for Alberta was $29.7 million. The funds have been distributed to the 18 Child and Family Service Authorities who develop their own plans with community groups. There are no specific province-wide strategies for the fund.

KEY PROVINCIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Alberta Association for Young Children
7340 - 78th Street, Avonmore School, Room 31
Edmonton, AB T6C 2N1
Telephone: 403-465-1571
Facsimile: 403-465-1571

Early Childhood Professional Association of Alberta
10277 - 118 Street
P.O. Box 3631
Spruce Grove, AB T5K 2V4
Telephone: 780-929-8782
Facsimile: 780-929-8729

Alberta Association for Family Day Home Services
11411 – 54 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T6H 0V8
Telephone: 403-435-5771
Facsimile: 403-437-0185

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Alberta Teachers' Association
11010 – 142 St. NW
Edmonton, AB T5N 2R1
Telephone: 780-447-9400
Facsimile: 780-445-6481
Website: www.teachers.ab.ca

British Columbia

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 rounded estimate)

0-2 yrs	123,100
3-5	125,500
6-12	353,100
Total 0-12	601,700

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (2001 rounded estimate)

0-2 yrs	71,400
3-5	76,400
6-12	241,200
Total	388,900

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	17,645	3,115	210
5-9	17,335	3,170	285
10-14	16,435	3,105	140

Note: These 1996 data are the most recent currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities (2001)

Age	Number of children with disabilities	Rate of children with disabilities (%)
0-4	3,950	2.0
5-9	9,080	3.9
10-14	12,000	4.7
Total 0-14 yrs	25,040	3.6

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2001 rounded estimate)

Age of youngest child	No. of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	65,000	62.8
3-5	49,000	69.4
6-15	185,000	77.3

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave

17 weeks. An additional six weeks is available to the birth mother if she is unable to return to work for health reasons related to the birth or pregnancy.

Parental leave
35 weeks for birth mothers who have taken maternity leave; must be taken immediately following maternity leave. 37 weeks for other parent. An additional 5 weeks is available if the child has a condition requiring additional parental care. 37 weeks if birth mother has not taken maternity leave; must be taken within 52 weeks of the child's birth.

Adoption leave
37 weeks. An additional five weeks is available if the child has a condition requiring additional parental care.

Family-related leave
5 days per year

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 40,672
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 20,570

Note: Provincial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See FEDERAL ECEC PROGRAMS for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION

British Columbia. Legislative Assembly. *School Act*, 1996. [R.S.B.C c.412]

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Ministry of Education.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten is delivered in public and private schools. It is available to all five year olds in British Columbia on a part-time basis. There are 2.4 hours of instruction during the day multiplied by the number of instructional days in the standard school calendar for that year.

Kindergarten is compulsory in British Columbia. Access is legislated.

AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old before December 31. Parents may defer their child's enrollment to the next school year.

CLASS SIZE

A provincial class size limit is specified in *The School Act*. (The School Act sets maximum; the average in aggregate must not exceed 19 students.)

Policy regarding teaching assistants is a local school board decision; teaching assistants are usually for special needs students.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a policy regarding children with special needs under Ministerial Orders 150/89, 638/95. Children with special needs are typically included in regular kindergarten. Extra support is available. The province provides funding beyond the standard per pupil allocation.

There are 1,232 kindergarten children with identified special needs (in public schools only) (includes severe handicapped, severe behaviour, moderate handicapped, and gifted).

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT (2000-2001)

Five year olds	38,290
Six year olds	852
Seven year olds	12
Total	39,154

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Kindergarten teachers must have teacher certification. There are no ECE requirements.

CURRICULUM

There is no specific provincial curriculum for kindergarten. The Ministry has developed a provincial framework for teachers called The Primary Program, which includes students in Kindergarten to Grade 3. Provincial curriculum for Kindergarten and Grade 1 is outlined for each area of study.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Average spending for each kindergarten student
Full-time equivalent: $4,200
Part-time: $2,100

(not including capital, transportation, special needs, Aboriginal Education, ESL, etc.)

Total provincial spending on kindergarten
$89,155,500

SPECIAL FEATURES

Full-time kindergarten may be available for special populations. These include Aboriginal, special needs or ESL; there are 3,320 full-day kindergarten children.

The Ministry of Children and Families has a policy on inner-city schools that may provide, for example, a School Meals program. Some Local School Boards may also have policies.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

British Columbia. Legislative Assembly. *Community Care Facility Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 60; `Child Care Licensing Regulation` 319/89 as amended to O.C. 1476/8, includes amendments up to BC Reg. 390/99.

British Columbia. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Subsidy Act Regulation 74/97*, revised May 2002.

British Columbia. Legislative Assembly. *Employment and Assistance Act*.

British Columbia. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care BC Act*. SBC 2001. Chapter 4. Assented to March 29, 2001, Updated to November 5, 2001

PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Judy Thompson
Director
Child Care Policy
Child Care Division
Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services
PO Box 9490, STN Prov. Govt.
Victoria, British Columbia V8W 9N7
Telephone: (250) 952-6089
Facsimile: (250) 953-3327

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted: 2

Children related to the caregiver are not included in this definition. This category is often referred to as "license not required" or LNR.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Group child care centres
Group care for no more than 13 hours/day for children, from birth to school age.

Preschools
Group care for no more than four hours/day for no more than 20 children, 30 months to school age.

Out-of-school care
Care outside school hours, including school vacations, for children attending school (including kindergarten) for not more than 13 hours/day.

Family child care
Care in a private home for no more than seven children. Of these seven, there can be no more than five preschool age children, three children under three years of age and one child under one year of age. Children 12 years or older who are related to the caregiver are not included in this definition.

Emergency care
Care for no more than 72 hours/month. Groups may be no larger than 12 for children under three years and no larger than 25 for older children.

Child-minding
Care for up to three hours/day, no more than two days/ week for children 18 months up to entry into grade one. Maximum of 16 children where any child is under three years and a maximum of 20 children if all are three years or older.

Ski hill or resort care
Occasional child care is provided in resort locations to children who are at least 18 months and under six years old, for no more than 40 hours/month, and no more than 8 hours/day.

The Medical Health Officer may authorize a license to extend the maximum number of hours of care as long as there is no health or safety risk to children.

Other
Child Care Resource and Referral Programs (CCRRPs) are provincially funded to provide information, support, and training to child care providers with an emphasis on family child care. They may include equipment and toy-lending, workshops, networking, home visits, and caregiver registries. CCRRPs also assist parents in finding child care. (See recent developments for announced changes to this program.)

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Historically, B.C. had both segregated and integrated child care programs for children with special needs. In September 1993, the Special Needs Day Care Review released its report Supported Child Care. The report proposed to work towards a more inclusive approach. The Supported Child Care Initiative was funded through a federal-provincial Strategic Initiatives agreement of $8 million over four years from 1995-1999.

A special needs diagnosis is required for a child to access supported child care. Contracts are negotiated either with an agency or an individual to provide the support which facilitates inclusion. The additional supports are not needs tested nor do parents pay fees for those supports, but there are waiting lists.

In 2001, parents of children with special needs who meet the financial eligibility criteria could receive a child care subsidy up to $107/month to help with the cost of care. (See RECENT DEVELOPMENTS for announced changes to this policy.)

Supported Child Care is under the aegis of the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

B.C. funds and licenses on-reserve child care. There are 65 First Nations communities that have licensed child care facilities. Child care centres run by Band and Tribal Councils became eligible to apply for provincial grants as of October 1994.

Malaspina University College and the First Nations Education Centre in Vancouver have developed training for First Nations early childhood educators with the Cowichan Community. University of Victoria has developed a generative curriculum model.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)

Centre-based	Full-time	Part-time
Group day care (under 3 yrs)	3,744	—
Group day care (over 2H yrs)	13,905	—
Preschool	—	15,407
Out-of-school	—	19,533
Child minding	—	2,379
Occasional childcare/other	—	422
Special needs	526	—
Total centre-based spaces		55,916
Family child care		17,033
Total regulated spaces		72,949

Average number of children with special needs in regulated child care (2001) 6,200

Estimated number of children in regulated child care receiving subsidies (2001) 18,500

Note: British Columbia provides fee subsidies for children in both regulated and unregulated child care. This figure is a calculation based on the proportion of subsidies in regulated care. Based on information from provincial officials, it was assumed that 50% of subsidies were used in regulated child care.

Subsidized children as a proportion of total regulated spaces (2001) 25%

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (2001)

Non-profit	32,699
For-profit	23,217

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRE

Maximum centre size
Not specified.

Maximum staff:child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-3 yrs	1:4	12
30 mos–school-age	1:8	25
Preschool	1:15	20
School-age	1:10-15	20-25
Special needs	1:4	12-16

Staff qualification requirements
There are three categories of training requirements:

- Early childhood educator

  Basic (at least 10 months) early childhood training program offered by an approved institution and 500 hours of supervised work experience.

- Infant/toddler educator

  Basic early childhood education program plus specialized training related to infant/toddler care and education.

- Special needs educator

  Basic early childhood education program plus specialized training related to children with special needs.

For the purposes of defining staffing requirements in child care programs, people who are currently enrolled in basic early childhood education training are called assistant early childhood educators.

- In group child care, under 36 months:

  Each group of five to eight children requires one infant/ toddler educator and one early childhood educator. Each group of nine to twelve children requires one infant/ toddler educator, one early childhood educator and one assistant. The same staffing requirements apply in emergency care for children in this age group.

- In group day care, 30 months to school-age:

Each group requires one early childhood educator plus assistants. The same staffing requirements apply in emergency care for children in this age group.

- In out-of-school, child-minding, and occasional or ski resort care:

  Staff must be older than 19 years and have taken a course on the care of young children or have relevant work experience. There are no specific early childhood training requirements (see above).

- In special needs facilities:

  Special needs facilities (group care facilities where at least 25% of the children have special needs) require one special needs educator for every group of four or fewer children. Larger groups require one special needs educator plus early childhood educators.

There are no legislated training requirements for staff in Child Care Resource and Referral Programs.

Parent involvement
Not specified.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
The Ministry of Health Planning, through the *Community Care Facility Act*, is responsible for licensing and monitoring child care facilities as well as developing policies and procedures specific to program licensing. The functions are carried out by the local Medical Health Officer.

The local Medical Health Officer, through licensing officers, issues interim permits and licenses, amends, suspends or cancels licenses, investigates complaints about programs, and conducts inspections and ongoing monitoring of programs. There is no legislated frequency for monitoring inspections. In practice, most facilities have an annual licensing visit.

If a centre is not in compliance, conditions can be placed on the license and the operator given a time frame in which to comply. If the situation is considered to be a danger to the children, the license can be suspended or cancelled. The operator can request a hearing and then, if not satisfied, can go to the Community Care Facilities Appeal Board, composed of non-government members, including people from the child care field.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

Regulation
Individually licensed.

Maximum capacity
Up to seven children under 12 years (including children living in the home). Of the seven children, there may be no more than five preschoolers, no more than three children under three years of age, and no more than one child under one year.

Provider qualification requirements
Must be over 19 years and have a first-aid certificate, be able to provide care and mature guidance to children, and have either completed a course on the care of young children or have relevant work experience. There are no early childhood training requirements.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Most facilities have an annual licensing visit. An initial inspection by the Fire Marshall's office is required when a new home opens.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents except when child care is provided in the child's own home. In this case, the fee subsidy is paid to the parent who assumes the role of employer, and is responsible for any required contributions to the Workers' Compensation Board, Employment Insurance Benefits, Canada Pension Plan and Canada Customs and Revenue Agency. Eligibility is determined through an income test.

The number of fee subsidies is not capped.

Fee subsidies may be used in for-profit, non-profit, licensed or unregulated child care and preschool (see RECENT DEVELOPMENTS) but not in child-minding services (see definitions in CHILD CARE SERVICES section). Families who use in-own-home child care may be eligible for subsidy when the caregiver is not a relative who resides with the family. If unregulated care is used, the parent must complete a checklist on the provider and submit it to the Ministry of Human Resources.

There is no minimum user fee but child care services may surcharge subsidized parents above the maximum subsidy rates. Surcharges may be paid by the government on behalf of the parent if

- the child is in child care as part of a risk reduction plan under the Child, *Family and Community Services Act*, or
- child care is recommended under the *Child, Family and Community Services Act* for a parent participating in a Young Parent Program.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 2001)*

	Turning point	Break-even point
1 parent, 1 child	$18,984	$27,816
2 parents, 2 children	23,016	31,846

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases.

**Subsidy eligibility levels were reduced in 2002. (See recent developments for details.)*

Maximum subsidy by age of child (2001)

Type of care	Part-day monthly (4 hrs or less/day)	Full-day monthly (more than 4 hrs/day)
Family child care		
0-18 months	$219	$438
19-36 months	202	404
36 months +	177	354
Centre-based		
0-18 months	$292	$585
19-36 months	264	528
36 months +	184	368
Kindergarten	$204	$255
School-age	$147	$173
Preschool	$107	—
In-own-home		
First child (0-18 mos)	$197	$394
First child (over 18 mos)	159	318
Second child (0-18 mos)	99	198
Each additional child	73	147

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

One-time funding

Child Care Facilities and Equipment Grant
Up to 25% of eligible capital costs to a maximum of $250,000 available to assist with facility acquisition, renovation or purchase of furnishings and equipment. Available to non-profit societies in good standing, local governments, and Aboriginal Bands and Tribal Councils on-reserve.

Emergency Repair, Replacement and Relocation Grant
Up to $4,000 to non-profit centres to upgrade or repair facilities in order to continue to comply with Ministry of Health licensing requirements and to assist with costs when a facility must move to another location. Available to non-profit societies in good standing or Aboriginal Band and Tribal Councils that operate licensed group child care, pre-school, child-minding or out-of-school centres.

Recurring funding

Child Care Compensation Contribution Program
Funds to enhance the wages of child care staff in non-profit and for-profit programs that meet eligibility criteria and, where applicable, assist with the additional costs associated with infant/toddler care in centres.* It combines the former wage supplement initiative and infant/ toddler incentive grant for group centres.

**All non-profit organizations offering infant/toddler care are eligible for the Infant/Toddler Factor under this program. The only for-profit operators who are eligible for the Infant/Toddler Factor are those who have been receiving the Infant/Toddler Incentive Grant continuously since April 1992.*

Infant/Toddler Incentive Grant
Family child care providers who are members of a Child Care Resource and Referral Program (regulated) are eligible to receive $3/day per occupied space to a maximum of two spaces for children under three years old.

Supported Child Care
Funds to assist with the additional costs for caring for children with special needs in the program of the parents' choice. It covers consultation, training and extra staffing and includes subsidy payments of $107/month for eligible families to assist with the cost of care. (See RECENT DEVELOPMENTS for announced changes to this program.)

Funding Assistance Program (FAP)
Operating funding to centre-based school-age programs to make spaces available to parents at a maximum of $7/day for before- and after-school care and $14 a day for full-day care and child care for children in kindergarten. (See RECENT DEVELOPMENTS for changes to this program.)

Other funding

Child Care Resource and Referral Programs (CCRRP)
Annualized funding for non-profit child care support programs to provide support, resources and referral services for child care providers and parents in all communities across the province. CCRRPs assist in the recruitment, support and training of both licensed and unlicensed family child care providers and the development and operation of child care operation manuals, training and workshops. (See recent developments for announced changes to this program.)

Financial Management and Administration Support Program
Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre is funded to assist non-profit programs in developing and maintaining sound financial management practices. (See RECENT DEVELOPMENTS for announced changes to this program.)

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidies in regulated care
$60,500,000
(estimate — see FUNDING section above and note in SPACE STATISTICS.)

One-time funding

Capital:	
Facilities and Equipment Grants	1,000,000
Child Care BC Capital Expansion Program*	500,000
Emergency Repair, Replacement and Relocation Grant	490,000

Recurring funding

Child Care Compensation Contribution Program	30,583,000
Infant/Toddler Incentive Grant for family child care	2,000,000
Funding Assistance Program	30,000,000
Supported Child Care	36,790,000
Supported Child Care subsidy	2,700,000
Total	$164,563,000

Other

Child Care Resource and Referral Programs	$13,120,000
Subsidies in unregulated child care (estimate)	60,500,000

**The Child Care BC capital expansion program was part of an age-specific expansion plan of the previous government which is no longer in effect.*

SALARIES

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full- and part-time staff combined) (2001)

Supervisor	$14.61
Child care teacher	13.28
Assistant	11.68

Source: 2001 Provincial Child Care Survey Report, Government of British Columbia.

Family child care
Information not available.

FEES

Mean monthly parent fees for full-time centre-based care (2001)

Infants (Age 0-17 mos)	$705
Toddlers (Age 18 mos-3 yrs.)	662
Preschool (Age 3-5.11 yrs)	494
Kindergarten	419
School-age (a.m. and p.m.)	197
Child-minding	61
Preschool (3 times/week)	107

Source: 2001 Provincial Child Care Survey Report, Government of British Columbia.

Average daily fee in family child care

Infants (Age 0-17 mos)	$29.00
Toddlers (Age 18 mos-3 yrs)	28.00
Preschool (Age 3-5 yrs)	26.74
Kindergarten	24.37
School-age	3.94/hour

Source: 2001 Provincial Child Care Survey Report, Government of British Columbia.

ADMINISTRATION

In May 2001, a new Liberal government was elected. A number of new ministries were established, resulting in changes in responsibility for some program areas. The Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services (MCAWS) now has the legislative and policy mandate for child care (Replacing the Ministry of Social Development and Economic Security). There are no regional positions and all activities are centralized in Victoria.

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) has responsibility for the Supported Child Care program.

The Community Care Facilities Branch, which is part of the Population Health and Wellness Unit of the Ministry of Health Planning, is responsible for the development and implementation of legislation, policy and guidelines of licensed child care facilities, the registration of early childhood educators, and approving early childhood training programs. Medical Health Officers are responsible for licensing and monitoring through five regional health authorities across the province.

The Ministry of Human Resources is responsible for the budget and administration of child care subsidies.

The Minister of State for Early Childhood Development is responsible for adopting, implementing and monitoring a cross-government integrated early childhood development strategy, preconception up to age six, for the province, and for overseeing the development and implementation of the federal/provincial/territorial Early Childhood Development Initiative. Child care is not included in this.

MUNICIPAL AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

There is no legislated municipal or other local government role.

The City of Vancouver and several other municipalities play a role in planning and developing child care.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

A Provincial Child Care Council of 17 members appointed by the Minister of State for Women's Equality addresses policy matters and priorities in an advisory capacity.

There are no provincial target levels of service, limits on licenses or a long-term planning process.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1910 The City Crèche was established in Vancouver as a child care service and employment agency.

1930 Vancouver Day Nursery Association (later the Foster Day Care Association of Vancouver) was established to provide an employment service for women and a system of family child care homes opened.

1943 The *Welfare Institutions Licensing Act* was amended to govern and license crèches, nursery playschools and kindergartens.

1968 B.C. Preschool Teachers' Association (now called the Early Childhood Educators of B.C.) was established.

1969 The Provincial Child Care Facilities Licencing Board replaced the Welfare Institutions Licensing Board.

1972 The Children's Services Employees Union was established.

1981 The B.C. Day Care Action Coalition was established.

1982 The Western Canada Family Day Care Association was established.

1990 A Task Force on Child Care was appointed.

1991 The Task Force on Child Care Report, *Showing We Care: A Child Care Strategy for the 90s*, was released.

1992 The Child Care Branch, Ministry of Women's Equality, was established. The Provincial Child Care Facilities Licensing Board was disbanded and replaced by a Director of Community Care Facilities. The Ministry of Women's Equality took over existing grant programs from the Ministry of Social Services (Infant/Toddler Incentive Grant; Emergency Repair, Replacement, and Relocation; and Facilities and Equipment), and established the Needs Assessment and Planning Grants, and the Quality Enhancement Grants.

A province-wide consultation on child care for children with special needs was conducted. A committee was formed to make recommendations for children with special needs.

1993 A child care regulation review began.

The Special Needs Day Care Review Board released their report, *Supported Child Care*.

A Provincial Child Care Council was appointed to provide advice to the Minister of Women's Equality on child care.

A school-based child care working group was established by the Ministry of Education to address ways to increase school district participation in the development of school-age child care.

A local government working group was established by the Ministry of Women's Equality to recommend actions to assist local government to improve and expand child care services.

The child care fee subsidy program and funding of the special needs program was shifted from the Ministry of Social Services to the Ministry of Women's Equality.

BC21, a plan to create 7,500 new child care spaces over three years in public buildings, was announced.

1994 A Child Care Policy Team was established to coordinate child care policy across government ministries.

1994 A wage supplement was introduced for non-profit child care programs.

1995 The wage supplement was made available to eligible for-profit child care programs.

The Quality Enhancement Grants/Needs Assessment and Local Planning Grants were discontinued.

Implementation of Strategic Initiatives, a $32 million, four year provincial-federal initiative was designed to test new approaches to various aspects of child care policy and programs. It included funding for the transition to Supported Child Care, different approaches to service delivery and One Stop Access (four test sites to provide a central location which co-located financial assistance workers, licensing officers and child care information).

The province released The Government's Response to Supported Child Care. A transition plan was developed to move from funding a specific number of places and specific programs to a system where funding is provided for extra supports in child care programs of the parent's choice.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

1996 As part of the transition from *Special Needs Day Care to Supported Child Care*, 49 community-based Steering Committees were established to assess attitudes and skills, equipment and resource needs, and physical and structural barriers

The *Emergency Repair, Replacement and Relocation Grant* was reduced to $4,000 from $5,000; BC21, the capital funding program which created child care facilities in public buildings, ended. An internal evaluation report was completed.

The *BC Benefits (Child Care) Act* was introduced and superseded The GAIN Act as the source of fee subsidies.

A performance audit of the Ministry of Women's Equality child care programs was completed. The Auditor General's report, *Management of Child Care Grants*, was released. It contained three recommendations:

- The Ministry should improve its child care database so that it can identify areas of the province where needs are the greatest and it should subsequently give preference to funding child care projects in those areas.
- The Ministry needs to develop standard costs for use in setting measurable goals for creating new child care spaces.
- The Ministry should extend its performance measurement to assess the effects of program efforts on quality and accessibility of child care.

1997 Child care moved from the Ministry of Women's Equality to the Ministry for Children and Families (MCF). The former Ministry of Social Services became the Ministry of Human Resources (MHR). The child care subsidy program was administered by MHR on behalf of MCF. Responsibility for licensing and monitoring programs and individuals remains in the Ministry of Health. A regional operational model was introduced.

1998 The Wage Supplement Initiative (WSI) was combined with the Infant/Toddler Incentive Grant (ITIG) for group centres and became the Compensation Contribu-tion Program (CCP). In October 1998, centres on the waiting lists became eligible for funding. Family child care programs were still eligible for the ITIG.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1998 A national study of wages, working conditions and quality, *You Bet I Care!*, found that — based on a sample of full-time centres for children 0-6 years and regulated family child care — British Columbia scored 5.6 on the ECERS-R (preschool rooms) and 5.6 on the ITERS (infant rooms) and 5.5 on the FDCRS (regulated family child care). (See Table 25 for elaboration.)

1999 The B.C. government announced that child care would be moved to the Ministry of Social Development and Economic Security (MSDES). In the fall, a new policy paper, *Building a Better Future for British Columbia's Kids* was released for public consultation by the Social Develop-ment Minister and the Women's Equality Minister. The government received substantial support from the public for its directions; 10,000 letters were received. The Minis-ter for Social Development called for a national child care program and for federal funding.

2001 A multi-phased, four year plan described as a comprehensive, publicly funded child care system was announced. In January, phase one of the Funding Assistance Program (FAP) for school- age group care was implemented. Centre-based after-school programs that chose to participate in the program received funding to provide child care for $7 per day for before- and after-school care. For children in kindergarten and for all children on non-instructional days and seasonal breaks, parents paid up to $14.00 per day. Low income families were still eligible for child care subsidies.

The implementation of phase two was planned for January 2002 for school-aged children in licensed family child care and group infant-toddler care, followed by phase three in 2002/ 2003, which was to cover all other

children in licensed family child care settings. Phase four, planned for 2003/ 2004, was to fund children in licensed group care for three to five year olds.

March 2001 *The Child Care BC Act* was proclaimed to provide for the new funding program; the budget allocation for 2000/01 was $14 million, annualized to $30 million.

May 2001 A new Liberal government was elected and the main responsibility for child care policy and programs moved to the newly created Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services.

August 2001 The government repealed the implementation plan in the *Child Care BC Act*.

January 2002 The Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services announced that it would replace existing child care grants with a new, consolidated operating grant for family child care and centres effective April 1, 2003, and that the Funding Assistance Program to school-age centres would end June 30, 2002. Out-of-school programs that were receiving the FAP will receive transition funding from July 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003.

Effective April 1, 2002, several changes were made to the child care subsidy program:

- The income exemption level that determines a parent's eligibility was reduced by $285/month in net income (see table on eligibility for fee subsidy below).
- Parents earning above the exemption level may continue to receive a partial subsidy. The subsidy above the exemption level is reduced by 60 cents (previously 50 cents) on each dollar of additional take-home pay.

An example of what the changes in income level and partial subsidy mean for a single parent with one four-year old in group child care is as follows:

Net monthly income	Previous subsidy	Subsidy effective April 1, 2002	Change in amount parent pays
$1,200	$368	$368	$0
15,00	368	246	121
1,750	284	96	187
2,000	159	0	159
2,250	34	0	34
2,500	0	0	0

- Families eligible for $50/month or less in fee subsidy will no longer receive one.
- Low income parents of children with special needs will be required to meet the social criteria as well as the financial eligibility criteria in order to be eligible for a fee subsidy. The social criteria require a parent to be working, seeking work, attending school/training for jobs programs, or have child care recommended by the Ministry of Children and Family Development as part of a risk-reduction plan.
- Families receiving preschool subsidies will no longer be eligible under the financial eligibility criteria unless they also meet the social needs criteria described above.
- Single parents on income assistance are required to seek work once their youngest child turns three.
- Subsidy is no longer available for:
  - parents in rehabilitative programs
  - short term family crisis.

The provincial government announced that it will no longer fund Child Care Resource and Referral Programs, One Stop Access sites and the provincial services of West-coast Child Care Resource Centre as of March 31, 2004.

Over the next three years, all of the Ministry of Children and Family Development's services except for youth justice will devolve to five regional authorities. Approximately 2,800 ministry staff, primarily front-line employees, will transfer to these authorities. Two community-based governance structures are being established; one for Child and Family Development and one for Community Living Services. Supported Child Care and the Infant Develop-ment Program will be components of the Child and Family Development

governance structure. It is as yet unclear what, if any, specific changes there will be to Supported Child Care, although changes are anticipated.

Effective March 31, 2003, the registration of Early Child-hood Educators may no longer be conducted through the Community Care Facilities Licensing Branch. A number of alternatives are being considered but none has yet been announced.

A new funding arrangement will be introduced for all licensed child care: family child care, centre-based care, preschool and out-of-school. It will be a consolidation of the existing grants into a generalized operating grant to be implemented in 2003. The stated intent of the new grant is "stabilization and growth".

November 2002 A plan to increase the number of government supported child care spaces by 25,000 despite a 40 per cent budget cut by April 2003 is announced. The minister of state responsible for child care announces that the $78 million program covering 45,000 spaces will be modified to become a $48 million program covering 70,000 spaces.

KEY PROVINCIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

The Child Care Advocacy Forum
210 West Broadway, 3rd Floor
Vancouver, BC V5Y 3W2
Telephone: 604-515-6257
Fax: 604-709-5662

Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre
210 West Broadway, 3rd floor
Vancouver, BC V5Y 3W2
Telephone: 604-709-5661
Facsimile: 604-709-5662
Website: http://www.wstcoast.org

Coalition of Child Care Advocates of B.C.
210 West Broadway, 3rd floor
Vancouver, BC V5Y 3W2
Telephone: 604-709-5661
Facsimile: 604-709-5662
http://www.cccabc.bc.ca/

Early Childhood Educators of B.C.
210 West Broadway, 3rd floor
Vancouver, British Columbia V5Y 3W2
Telephone: 604-709-6063
Facsimile: 604-709-5662
Email: ccabc@wstcoast.org.ca

School-Age Child Care Association of B.C.
210 West Broadway, 3rd floor
Vancouver, BC V5Y 3W2
Telephone: 604-709-5661
Facsimile: 604-709-5662
Email: sacca@wstcoast.org
Website: http://www.wstcoast.org

Western Canada Family Childcare Association
210 West Broadway, 3rd floor
Vancouver, BC V5Y 3W2
Telephone: 604-951-1870

(BC) Aboriginal Child Care Society
1999 Marine Drive, #209
North Vancouver, BC V7P 3J3
Telephone: 604-990-9939

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

British Columbia Teachers' Federation
100-550 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2
Telephone: 604-871-2283 or 1-800-663-9163
Facsimile: 604-871-2290
Website: www.bctf.ca

Northwest Territories

TERRITORIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs
Information not available.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force
Information not available.

Children 0-14 identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	1,650	405	3,795
5-9	1,665	390	3,760
10-14	1,400	330	3,030

Note: These 1996 data are the most recent currently available.

Children 0-9 with disabilities residing at home (1991 estimate)

	0-9 yrs
Use of technical aid	123
Speech difficulty	176
Developmental handicap	40

Note: These 1991 estimates are the most recent currently available. These 1991 data include Nunavut.

Workforce participation of women by age of youngest child
Information not available

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave
17 weeks.

Parental leave
37 weeks may be shared between the parents. 52 weeks is the maximum allowed for combined maternity and parental leave.

Adoption leave
37 weeks.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 673
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 350

Note: Territorial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION

Northwest Territories. Legislative Assembly. *Education Act*, R.S.N.W.T. 1995, c. 28.

TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

The territories and three provinces continue to fund and deliver denominational education. Both "public" and Catholic school boards are publicly funded.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

Kindergarten is delivered in public and private schools.

It is available to all five year olds in the Northwest Territories on a part-time basis. There is a maximum of 570 hours and a minimum of 485 hours of instructional hours a year; within this, decisions about hours are made by school boards.

Kindergarten is not compulsory in the Northwest Territories. Access is legislated.

AGE ELIGIBILTY

Five years old by December 31.

CLASS SIZE

There is no provincial class size limit.

There is no provincial policy regarding teaching assistants. However, student support funding is provided to school boards based on the number of students and the school board makes the decisions regarding assistants.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a policy of inclusion of children with special needs. Children have access to the education program in a regular instructional classroom setting. Boards are required to provide support to make this possible through School Support funding. There is an exemption for children with extreme needs (e.g. medical); the child may be in treatment centre instead of classroom.

The number of kindergarten children with identified special needs is not available.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

Five year olds (2001): 792

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

B.Ed. is required, or a two or three year certificate or diploma in teacher education (in this case, the teacher must continue course work to obtain B.Ed).

There is a kindergarten specialist certificate (two year ECE plus one year teacher training, though no one has this as there is no one year teacher training).

CURRICULUM

There is a territorial curriculum, A Start in Something New (circa 1978). The program focuses on integration and is multidisciplinary and theme-based.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Average spending per kindergarten student
$4,570

Total territorial spending on kindergarten
$3.6 million

SPECIAL FEATURES

There is block funding to school boards for Aboriginal Language and Culture. In some places Aboriginal Head-Start is becoming the other half-day of kindergarten.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

Northwest Territories. Legislative Assembly. The North-west Territories Child Day Care Act and the Child Day Care Standards and Regulations 1988.

TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBITY FOR CHILD CARE

Pam Petten
Director
Early Childhood and School Services
Department of Education, Culture and Employment
Government of the Northwest Territories
Lahm Ridge Tower, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 2L9
Telephone: (867) 920-3491
Facsimile: (867) 873-0109

Early childhood contact:
Gillian Moir
Telephone: (867) 920-8973

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted: 4

Figure includes the caregiver's own children up to 12 years.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Day care centres
Group care, instruction and supervision for five or more children aged 0-12 years by a person who is not a relative of the majority of the children.

Nursery schools
Programs for children less than six years of age for four consecutive hours or less a day.

After-school care
Care outside school hours for school-aged children up to and including 11 years of age, not exceeding five hours outside the required school program.

Note: There are no licensed after-school care programs that operate during the summer months.

Family day homes
Care in a private home for up to eight children under 12 years (including the caregiver's own children).

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There are no segregated child care programs for children with special needs.

Care providers are funded to provide extra support and parents are eligible for fee assistance for their children with special needs even if they are not employed or at school. This subsidy eligibility requires a financial needs assessment and a medical referral from a recognized health care official for the child to be in developmental care.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

All of the Northwest Territories is comprised of Inuit and Dene communities. There are five licensed child care centres/day homes in five Inuit communities; 35 licensed child care centres/day homes in 19 Dene communities; and 36 licensed child care centres/day homes operating in Yellowknife. This represents the total supply of child care in the Northwest Territories.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)
Spaces are in 49 centres and 27 day homes.

Centres

Infant spaces (0-2 years)	59
Preschool spaces (2-5 years)	807
After-school spaces (6-12 years)	152
Total	1018

Note: All centres are licensed for full time spaces, even though many operate as part-day nursery schools/playschools.

Family child care

Infants (0-2 years)	54
Preschool spaces (2-5 years)	108
After-school spaces (6-12 years)	54
Total	216
Total regulated spaces	1234

Note: Since the last version of this publication that used 1998 data, the Northwest Territories was divided, creating the new territory, Nunavut (1999). Some of the Northwest Territories' child care spaces (1998) are now in Nunavut.

Number of children with special needs in regulated child care (2001)
Information not available.

Number of children receiving subsidies (2001)
Information not available.

Subsidized children as a proportion of total spaces (2001)
Information not available.

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (2001)

Non-profit	1,018

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum centre size
Not specified

Maximum staff:child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-12 mos	1:3	6
13-24 mos	1:4	8
25-35 mos	1:6	12
3 yrs	1:8	16
4 yrs	1:9	18
5-11 yrs	1:10	20

Staff qualification requirements
Must be at least 19 years of age and have a first-aid certificate and a clear criminal record with regard to offences respecting a child.

There are no early childhood training requirements.

Parent involvement
The legislation requires non-profit programs to have boards of directors with at least 51% parent members. For-profit programs are required to establish and confirm in writing with the Director of Early Childhood and School Services a plan for involving the parents or guardians of children attending the centre in the operation of the program.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Licenses may be granted for 3-5 years, often issued in conjunction with annual inspections, which are conducted of all licensed child care centres by an Early Childhood Officer or Consultant from the Early Childhood Program, the Public Health Department, and Fire Marshall's office.
The Early Childhood Officer is required to have a background in early childhood education.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

Regulation
Individually licensed.

Maximum capacity
Maximum of eight children under 12 years (including the provider's own children). No more than six of the eight children may be five years or under, no more than three children may be under three years, and no more than two children may be under two years.

Provider qualification requirements
A provider must be a minimum of 19 years of age and have a first-aid certificate and a clear criminal record with regard to offences respecting a child.

There are no early childhood training requirements.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Homes are visited at least once a year by staff from the Early Childhood Program and a representative from each of the Public Health Department and the Fire Marshall's office.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee subsidy is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents if child care is a regulated service. In the case of unregulated care, the subsidy is paid to the parent based on an attendance report signed by the child care provider.

The intention of the subsidy program is to provide assistance for the parent to work or take part in a training program. Eligibility is determined by a needs assessment that takes into consideration parent costs and family size as well as income.

Subsidies are payable to any regulated for-profit or non-profit service or for an unregulated arrangement. Payments for unregulated care are made directly to the parents.

Eligibility for fee subsidy
Eligibility varies according to the number of family members, actual shelter costs, community of residence, and eligibility for enhanced benefits such as disability allowance, educational expenses. These needs are based on Income Assistance Program schedules.

A needs assessment is applied so there is no set break-even point. There is no territory-wide maximum subsidy. Maxi-mums are set for the type of care. There is no minimum user fee.

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

One-time funding

Start-up funding
Available to non-profit licensed centres and family day homes, including part-time, infant, after-school and special needs spaces. Funding ranges from $188-$3,420/space. The rates are set by the Income Support Division of the Department of Health and Social Services. There are ten different rates based on the cost of living in different parts of the territory.

Operating funding
Available to non-profit, licensed centres and family day homes from $1.25-$14.25/occupied space/day, depending on the age of the child and the location of the program. For example, in Yellowknife an infant space receives $7.50/day and a preschool space $5.00; in Aktavik the rates are $10.50 and $7.00 respectively; and in Paulatuk they are $14.25 and $9.50. Family child care homes and centres receive the same amounts in operating grants.

Operating funding is available on a first-come first-served basis and there may be waiting lists.

TERRITORIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidies	**$822,000***	
Start-up and operating grants		780,000**
Total	$1,602,000	

**The fee subsidy budget includes spending on both regulated and unregulated child care.*

***Breakdown between one-time start-up and ongoing operating grants is not available.*

SALARIES

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full- and part-time staff combined) (1998)

Assistant teachers	$12.07
Teachers	13.40
Teacher-directors	19.32
Administrative directors	n/a

Source: You Bet I Care! Current information is not available.

Family child care
Information not available.

FEES

Median monthly parent fees for centre-based full-time care (2001)
Infants and preschool average $600/month

Source: Reported by territorial officials.

Average daily fee in family child care
Information not available.

ADMINISTRATION

The Early Childhood Program of the Department of Education, Culture and Employment is responsible for the development of standards, the regulation of child care services, fee subsidy administration, contributions to child care programs and the development of a territorial child care system.

MUNICIPAL OR OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

There is no local government role.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

There is no territorial plan for the development of child care. New centres must complete a needs assessment before they are eligible to apply for start-up funding.

OTHER RELATED SERVICES

With funding from Early Childhood and School Services, the Catholic School Board in Yellowknife offers a 4+ program. The program is licensed as a 35 space nursery school and operates for 2 1/2 hours per day. It

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

is available to children with developmental delays to prepare them for the formal school system. Children do not have to attend schools within the Catholic School Board to participate. There are no user fees.

The Dogrib Community Services Board, which delivers services to four Dogrib communities, pools all the early childhood funding from all levels of government. Funding from Community Action Program for Children (CAPC), Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP), Aboriginal Head Start, child care, and any other sources that may be available is then allocated to develop locally responsive early childhood programs.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1971 First child care centre to receive territorial government funding was opened in Iqaluit (then known as Frobisher Bay). It taught children in both English and Inuktitut syllabics and had four Inuit child care workers.

1970s Child care centres set up at the instigation of parents and community members. Funding was generally through federal government Local Initiative Project (LIP) grants with some user subsidy for parents in need from the territorial government.

1974 The *Policy Respecting Day Care Services* noted that while numerous child care services were in operation, only two were receiving operational financial support from the territory (the original centre in Iqaluit and a second centre in Yellowknife).

1976 The territory finalized a policy on fee subsidies for child care centres, family child care and after-school programs.

1980 The territory adopted the *Policy Respecting Subsi-dized Day Care* in the Northwest Territories, which considered costs and income to determine eligibility for subsidization of children in unregulated child care.

1983 Establishment of the Northwest Territories Child Care Association which circulated voluntary standards for child care centres.

1985 The territorial government hired a Day Care Con-sultant to review child care issues and make recommendations.

1988 The government enacted its first child care legislation, The *Northwest Territories Child Day Care Act*. The Advisory Council on the Status of Women released a policy paper, *Position Paper on Child Care*, which outlined a comprehensive program to develop a system of child care services. The first early childhood education training program in the Northwest Territories was opened in Arctic College in Iqaluit and was delivered in both English and Inuktitut.

1989 A consultant was hired by the Native Council of Canada to research the specific child care needs of native peoples in the Northwest Territories. The Interim Day Care program came into force in April.

1993 Child care responsibilities were moved from the Department of Social Services to the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

1996 The major initiative was early intervention.

1997 The Healthy Children Initiative was launched to provide funding to communities to enhance existing early childhood programs and services for children aged 0-6. As well, the licensing and monitoring function was decentralized to five regions. With decentralization and additional staffing, the function of licensing staff moved away from a strictly monitoring role to more of a program development focus.

April 1, 1999 The territory of Nunavut was created and responsibility for all programs in the Eastern Arctic moved to the new territory. Initially, Nunavut adopted the child care legislation and regulations of the North-west Territories.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

2001 The Early Childhood Development Framework for Action and Action Plan were launched. The Framework identifies key priorities for the enhancement of existing early childhood programs, including licensed child care. The Northwest Territories allocated $2 million to the Framework for Action, which was supplemented by the Early Childhood Development Initiative allocation of $400,000.

April 1, 2002 Operating contributions were increased. Operational funding is available to non-profit, licensed centres and family day homes from $2.00-$22.80/occupied space/day, depending on the age of the child and the location of the program.

KEY TERRITORIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Not available at this time.

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Northwest Territories Teachers' Association
5018-48th Street
P.O. Box 2340
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7
Telephone: 867-873-8501
Facsimile: 867-873-2366
Email: nwta@nwtta.nt.ca
Website: www.nwtta.nt.ca

Nunavut

TERRITORIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs
Information not available.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force
Information not available.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group
Information not available.

Children 0-9 yrs with disabilities residing at home
Information not available. See Territorial Context, NWT.

Workforce participation of women by age of youngest child
Information not available.

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave
17 weeks.

Parental leave
37 weeks may be shared between the parents. 52 weeks is the maximum allowed for combined maternity and parental leave.

Adoption leave
37 weeks.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 727
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 180

Note: Territorial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION

Nunavut. Legislative Assembly. *Bill 1: Education Act*. 2002. (Legislation not yet passed)*

Northwest Territories. Legislative Assembly. *Education Act*. 1995, R.S.N.W.T. c.28.

**Note: The Nunavut Act, S.C. 1993, c.28 as amended brought Nunavut into being on April 1, 1999. Laws passed by the Government of the Northwest Territories during this period were inherited by the Government*

of Nunavut upon its creation. The Government of Nunavut is currently in the process of passing its own education legislation.

TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Department of Education.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten is delivered in public schools under regional school operations. It is available to all five year olds in Nunavut on a part-time basis. There is a requirement for no less than 485 hours and no more than 6 hours/day instructional hours per year.

Kindergarten is currently not compulsory in Nunavut but the new Education Act makes it compulsory. Access is legislated: it is an entitlement.

AGE ELIGIBILTY

Five years old by December 31.

CLASS SIZE

There is no territorial class size limit. The average/mean class size is 22.

There is no provincial policy regarding teaching assistants.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a policy of inclusion; children with special needs have the right to be in a regular class with children their own age and in their own community. Extra supports such as student support assistants, Individual Education Plans, and specialists provided through Health are available.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

Five year olds (2001): 655

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Must be a certified teacher (B.Ed) or have a Letter of Authority. There is no early childhood requirement.

There is no provincial policy regarding training for assistants.

CURRICULUM

There is a two year development process underway to develop a territorial curriculum. The process includes a group of elders. The curriculum will be grounded in

cultural traditions and language and will also integrate High/Scope materials (U.S.) within a Northern context.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Information is not available.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Instruction in Inuktitut is provided from kindergarten to Grade 3. A transition to English in Grade 4 with some Inuktitut follows from that point on. (It should be noted that 95% of the children have a first language other than English or French).

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

Nunavut. Legislative Assembly. The Northwest Territories Child Day Care Act and the Child Day Care Standards and Regulations 1988.

TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Kathy Okpik
Assistant Deputy Minister
Adult Education, Career and Early Childhood Services
Department of Education, Government of Nunavut
Box 1000, Station 980
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0
Telephone: (867) 975-5600
Facsimile: (867) 975-5635

Leslie Leafloor
Early Childhood Program
Telephone: (867) 975-5607
E mail: lleafloor@gov.nu.ca

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted: 4

Figure includes the caregiver's own children up to 12 years.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Day care centres
Group care, instruction and supervision for five or more children aged 0-12 years by a person who is not a relative of the majority of the children.

Nursery schools
Programs for children less than six years of age for four consecutive hours or less a day, including Aboriginal Head Start Programs.

After-school care
Care outside school hours for school-aged children up to and including 11 years of age.

Family day homes
Care in a private home for up to eight children under 12 years (including the caregiver's own children).

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There are no segregated child care programs for children with special needs.

Care providers are funded to provide extra support for children with special needs through the daily operating grants which are based on the age of the child and the area in which the centre is located. The operating grant for a preschool child is increased by approximately 50% for a child with an identified special need and is an entitlement.

In order for the centre to receive the additional funding for a child, a letter from a recognized health care professional is required. In addition, centres may apply for funding to the Healthy Children's Initiative for adaptive equipment or for a one-on-one worker if necessary.

Parents are eligible for fee subsidy for their children with special needs even if they are not employed or at school. This subsidy eligibility requires a financial needs assessment to be applied and parents must have a medical referral from a recognized health care professional for the child to be in developmental care.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Since 1996, the First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initia-tive (FNICCI) has been responsible for the development of approximately 20 centres in what is now Nunavut. In Nunavut, there are three Aboriginal Human Resource Development Strategy (AHRDAS) regional offices, one in each of Nunavut's three regions*. Each regional AHRDAS office took on the responsibility for the delivery and administration of the Inuit Childcare Program

in their Region which is the program established with FNICCI funding.

In addition to providing capital funding for new child care centres, all centres in Nunavut (with the exception of seven Aboriginal Head Start programs that are funded through Health Canada) receive operating funds through the Inuit Childcare Program. Each AHRDAS office provides block funding to the child care centres and may fund proposals for one-time funding for repairs and renovations. In addition, the AHRDAS may provide a fee subsidy to Land-Claim Beneficiary parents that is in addition to the regular fee subsidy funded through Early Childhood Services.

The Inuit Childcare Program spends approximately $3 million/year on child care in Nunavut.

** Note: In April 1999, the federal government launched the Aboriginal Human Resource Development Strategy (AHRDAS) within Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC). Each of the HRDC regions entered into an Aboriginal Human Resources Development Agreement with various Aboriginal organizations across Canada.*

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001/02)

Centres	
Infants (under two yrs)	161
Preschoolers	671
After-school	100
Total regulated spaces	932

There are 42 centres.

Note: There are currently no regulated family child care homes.

Children with special needs in regulated child care

Information not available.

Number of children in regulated child care receiving subsidies
Information not available.

Subsidized children as a proportion of total regulated spaces
Information not available.

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (2001)

Non-profit	932

Note: All child care centres in Nunavut are non-profit.

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum centre size
Not specified.

Maximum staff:child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-12 mos	1:3	6
13-24 mos	1:4	8
25-35 mos	1:6	12
3 yrs	1:8	16
4 yrs	1:9	18
5-11 yrs	1:10	20

Staff qualification requirements
Must be at least 19 years of age, have a first-aid certificate and represent the cultural background of the children.

There are no early childhood training requirements at this time.

Parent involvement
The legislation requires non-profit programs whose boards of directors do not have a minimum of 51% parent members to have a parent committee with a minimum of 51% parent members.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Licenses are granted for one year. Annual inspections of all licensed child care centres are conducted by an Early Childhood Officer from the Department of Education, the Public Health Department, and the Fire Marshall's office. It is recommended that the Early Childhood Officer have a background in early childhood education.

REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

Regulation
Individually licensed.

Maximum capacity
Maximum of eight children under 12 years (including the provider's children). No more than six of the eight children may be five years or under, no more than three children may be under three years, and no more than two children may be under two years.

Provider qualification requirements
A provider must be a minimum of 19 years of age and have a first-aid certificate. There are no early childhood training requirements.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Homes are visited at least once a year by staff from the Early Childhood Program and a representative from each of the Public Health Department and the Fire Marshall's office.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee subsidies may be used in both regulated and unregulated child care. Subsidies are paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents if the child care is a regulated service. In the case of unregulated care, the subsidy is paid to the parent and is based on an attendance report signed by the child care provider.

The intention of the subsidy program is to provide assistance for the parent to work or take part in a training program. Eligibility is determined by a needs assessment which takes into consideration parent costs and family size as well as income. An unregulated provider may be a relative of a parent of the child being subsidized.

Eligibility for fee subsidy
Eligibility varies with clients' actual housing, utility and child care costs, plus social assistance rates for food and clothing. To be eligible for a fee subsidy, parents must be working, attending school or a training program, or have a child with a special need, for whom child care is recommended by a recognized health care professional.

A needs assessment is applied so there is no set break-even point.

There is no territory-wide maximum subsidy. Maximums are set for the type of care.

Maximum subsidy rate/child/month (2001)

	Full-time care	Part-time care
Licensed centre	$700/month/child	$350/month/child
Licensed family day home	$600/month/child	$300/month/child
Unlicensed care	$500/month/child	$250/month/child
After-school care	—	$145/month/child

There is no minimum user fee and programs may surcharge subsidized parents.

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

One-time funding

Start-up funding
Available to non-profit licensed centres and family day homes, including part-time, infant, after-school and special needs spaces. Funding ranges from $263-$3,420/space depending on the geographic area of the program and the ages of children served.

Recurring funding

Operating funding
Available to non-profit, licensed centres and family day homes from $1.93-$15.67/occupied space/day depending on the age of the child and the location of the program.

TERRITORIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidies	**$530,000***	
Start-up and operating grants		1,335,000**
Total	$1,865,000	

**Note: The fee subsidy budget includes spending on both regulated and unregulated child care.*

***Note: Breakdown between one-time start-up and ongoing operating grants is not available.*

Other funding
Funding through the Inuit Childcare Program: $3,000,000 (approximate)

The Healthy Children's Initiative spends approximately $259,000 for supportive services for children with special needs. There is no breakdown of how much of the funding is spent in regulated child care.

SALARIES

Gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full- and part-time staff combined) (2000)

	Range	Average
Untrained	$9.50–15.00	$13.00
ECE certificate	11.00–21.25	15.00
ECE diploma	11.00–26.22	18.00
Director/supervisors	12.00–25.00	20.00

Source: Information collected in 2000 by territorial officials.

Family child care
Information not available

FEES

Median monthly parent fees for centre-based full-time care (2000)

Infants (Age 0-17 mos)	$577.00
Toddlers (Age 18 mos-3 yrs)	577.00
Preschool (Age 3-5.11 yrs)	577.00
School-age	n/a

Source: Information collected in 2000 by territorial officials.

Average daily fee in family child care
Information not available.

ADMINISTRATION

The Adult Education, Career and Early Childhood Services Division of the Department of Education is responsible for the development of standards, the regulation of child care services, contributions to child care programs and the development of a territorial child care system. Five Early Childhood Officers within the three regions of Nunavut are responsible for licensing and monitoring child care programs. The Income Support Division of the Department of Education is responsible for the administration of fee subsidy.

MUNICIPAL AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

Child care programs may be under the auspice of District Education Authorities who may hold the license.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

There is no territorial plan for the development of child care. New centres must complete a needs assessment before they are eligible to apply for start-up funding.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

Note: Before Nunavut was established in 1999, it was part of the Northwest Territories.

1971 First child care centre to receive territorial government funding was opened in Iqaluit (then known as Frobisher Bay). It taught children in both English and Inuktitut syllabics and had four Inuit child care workers.

1970s Child care centres set up at the instigation of parents and community members. Funding was generally through the federal government. Local Initiative Project (LIP) grants with some user subsidy for parents in need from the Territorial government were used.

1974 *The Policy Respecting Day Care Services* noted that while numerous child care services were in operation, only two were receiving operational financial support from the Territory (the original centre in Iqaluit and a second centre in Yellowknife).

1976 The Territory finalized a policy on fee subsidies for child care centres, family day care, and after-school programs.

1980 The Territory adopted the *Policy Respecting Subsidized Day Care in the Northwest Territories* which considered costs and income to determine eligibility for subsidization of children in unregulated child care.

1983 Establishment of the Northwest Territories Child Care Association which circulated voluntary standards for child care centres.

1985 The territorial government hired a Day Care Con-sultant to review child care issues and make recommendations.

1988 The government enacted its first child care legislation, *The Northwest Territories Child Day Care Act*.

The Advisory Council on the Status of Women released a policy paper on child care, Position Paper on Child Care, which outlined a comprehensive program to develop a system of child care services.

The first early childhood education training program in the Northwest Territories was opened in Arctic College in Iqaluit and was delivered in both English and Inuktitut.

1989 A consultant was hired by the Native Council of Canada to research the specific child care needs of native peoples in the Northwest Territories.

The Interim Day Care program came into force in April.

1993 Child care responsibilities were moved from the Department of Social Services to the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

1996 The major initiative was early intervention.

1997 The Healthy Children Initiative was launched to provide funding to communities to enhance existing early childhood programs and services for children aged 0-6. In addition, licensing and monitoring was decentralized to five regions. With decentralization and additional staffing, the function of licensing staff moved away from a strictly monitoring role to more of a program development focus.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

April 1999 The Territory of Nunavut was created and responsibility for all programs in the Eastern Arctic moved to the new territory. Nunavut has initially adopted the child care legislation and regulations of the Northwest Territories and they will be reviewed in the future.

September 2000 The Children First Secretariat, made up of the Departments of Education, Justice, Health and Social Services, and Culture, Language, Elders and Youth was formed. This committee is designed to facilitate the coordination of programs and services that promote the healthy development and well-being of all children and youth across Nunavut.

2001 Nunavut received $300,000 in Early Childhood Development Initiatives funding. The funding was allocated to pre-natal and home care programs.

2002 Responsibility for Child Care Programs moved from the Early Childhood and School Services Division to the Adult Education, Career and Early Childhood Services Division of the Department of Education. The budget for operating and start up grants was increased by $438,000 or approximately 25%.

KEY TERRITORIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Nunavut Inuit Childcare Association
Box 459
Pond Inlet, NU X0A 0S0
(established summer 2001)

Yukon

TERRITORIAL CONTEXT

Number of children 0-12 yrs (2001 estimate) 5,041

Note: Information provided by territorial officials.

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force
Information not available.

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an Aboriginal group (1996)

Age	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4	685	45	nil
5-9	665	45	25
10-14	565	45	10

Note: These 1996 data are the most recent currently available.

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991)

Use of technical aid	78
Speech difficulty	91
Developmental handicap	35

Note: These 1991 estimates are the most recent currently available.

Workforce participation of women by age of youngest child
Information not available.

FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

Maternity leave
17 weeks.

Parental leave
37 weeks. Parents who share a parental leave cannot normally take their leave at the same time, whether or not they work for the same employer.

Adoption leave
37 weeks.

Births and EI maternity claims
Number of births (2000): 370
Number of initial maternity claims allowed (2000-2001): 240

Note: Territorial leaves are unpaid. The federal government pays for some portions under Employment Insurance. See federal ecec programs for more information.

KINDERGARTEN

LEGISLATION

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. Education Act, 1990. S.Y. c.25.

The territories and three provinces continue to fund and deliver denominational education. Both "public" and Catholic school boards are publicly funded.

TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Department of Education.

KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

KINDERGARTEN (FIVE YEAR OLDS)

Kindergarten is delivered in public schools under the Department of Education. Generally, kindergarten is part day for five year olds; there are 475 instructional hours. All five year olds have access to kindergarten but it is not compulsory.

In 2000 one school in Carmacks operated a full-day kindergarten program for five year olds that included four year olds on a half-day basis. A full-day kindergarten in Whitehorse was operated on a pilot project basis.

KINDERGARTEN (FOUR YEAR OLDS)

In four communities, combined four and five year old kindergarten programs were offered to provide children with more time to prepare for Grade 1 entry. Where there are four year olds involved, the Child Development Centre may provide assistance for particular students (see special features).

AGE ELIGIBILITY

Four years and eight months as of September 1st.

CLASS SIZE

There is a territorial class size limit of 22.

The average/mean class size is 15. There is great variation between small rural schools where class size is 5 to 10 students and large urban schools where it is 16-21 students.

There is no Territorial policy regarding teaching assistants. Special program staff determines the needs of individual students.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is a policy guideline for children with special needs. Children are included in regular kindergarten unless they have severe, multiple special needs. Extra support is available; the Department of Education assigns Educational Assistants. Services such as speech and language, physical and occupational therapies and psychological services for testing are provided.

The number of children with special needs is approximately 50 students.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT (2000/2001)

Five year olds: 400

Four year olds: 30 (approximately)

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

The teacher qualification is a B.Ed. There are no special requirements for kindergarten but applications with Early Childhood training are given preference.

There is no provincial policy on training for assistants but some training is provided through Special Program Staff.

CURRICULUM

The Yukon uses the British Columbia curriculum. The focus is child-centred with a balance between play-oriented centres and group instruction. In some schools, First Nations language time is included. The focus is on pre-literacy and pre-numeracy skills as well as language and social development.

SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN (2001)

Information is not available. There is block funding from the federal government.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Eight rural schools combine four year olds with the regular kindergarten program. The targeted communities are mainly First Nations with many children determined to be at risk (determined by nursing stations and the Child Development Outreach Program). The focus is on language development, social skills, pre-literacy and pre-numeracy skills.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

LEGISLATION

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *The Child Care Act*, 1990.

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Centre Program Regulation*, 1995.

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *Family Day Home Program Regulation*, 1995.

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *School-Age Program Regulation*, 1995.

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Subsidy Regulation*, 1995.

TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Debbie Mauch
Supervisor
Child Care Services Unit
Department of Health and Social Services
Government of the Yukon Territory
P.O. Box 2703
Whitehorse, Yukon Territory Y1A 2C6
Telephone: (867) 667-3493
Facsimile: (867) 393-6250

CHILD CARE SERVICES

UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

Unregulated family child care
Maximum number of children permitted: 3

Figure excludes the caregiver's own children under age six.

Preschools
Preschool programs for children 3-6 years that operate for less than three consecutive hours are not regulated.

REGULATED CHILD CARE

Child care centres
Group care for less than 24 hours a day for four or more children 0-12 years in a place other than a preschool, a school-age program, or a family day home.

School-age child care
Care outside school hours for school-aged children up to 12 years.

Family day homes
Care in a private home for mixed-age groups up to a maximum of eight children in groups with: no more than four infants; or no more than six preschool-age children where not more than three are infants; or no more than eight preschool children (including the providers' own children under 6 years). Additional staff are required in family day homes for up to four school-age children in addition to the number of preschool-age children.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

1995 child care regulations state that children with special needs in mainstream child care programs must be integrated to the fullest extent possible. A child is designated special needs on the assessment of a child care professional. An Individual Program Plan must be developed for the child in consultation with staff, parents and professionals in the community. The Plan outlines goals and objectives for the child.

There are no segregated child care programs in the Yukon Territory. The Whitehorse Child Development Centre provides special needs programming and supports across the Yukon. It operates an integrated preschool program licensed for 25 children as well as unlicensed preschool programs. It provides in-home early intervention supports and resources to families of children with special needs. It operates a mobile outreach unit that serves every community in the territory to support and provide resources.

Funding is also available for centres and family day homes through a Supported Child Care fund and is based on the individual need of the child. Funding may be provided for adaptive equipment, transportation, programming support and additional staff.

Parents who meet the financial eligibility criteria receive a fee subsidy for their child to attend a child care program, whether or not the parent is in the paid labour force. Parents who are not eligible for a subsidy pay for the child care space but not for the additional supports.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

There are no reserves for First Nations people in the Yukon. First Nations receive the same start-up and operating grants from the Yukon government for programs they operate as other licensed child care centres and family day homes. They also receive funding from the federal First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative which is administered by the Council for Yukon First Nations. First Nations operate six licensed child care

centres. The Council for Yukon First Nations also provides financial support to one additional child care centre operated by a child care society and a number of family day homes that serve First Nations children.

In total there are approximately 267 regulated spaces operated or supported by First Nations. There are three Aboriginal Head Start programs, two as part of regulated First Nations child care centres, and one stand-alone unlicensed preschool. Parents who use the regulated centres and family child care homes are eligible for fee subsidies.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (2001)

Centre-based	
Infants/toddlers	260
Preschool	409
School-age	251
Family child care	428
Total regulated spaces	1,348

Note: All spaces are considered to be full-time.

Children with special needs in regulated child care (2001)
Approximately 25

Children receiving subsidies (2001)
790

Subsidized children as a proportion of total regulated spaces (2001)
59%

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (2001)

Non-profit	674
For-profit	246

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

REGULATED CENTRES

Maximum centre size
54 spaces

Maximum staff:child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-18 mos	1:4	8
18 mos-2 yrs	1:6	12
3-6 yrs	1:8	16
6-12 yrs*	1:12	24

**Note: The current Act and Regulations cover special needs children up to age 16 .*

Staff qualification requirements
By 1997, 50% of the regular staff in a centre had to meet or exceed the Child Care Worker I qualifications. By 1999, it was required that in addition, 30% of the staff had to meet or exceed the Child Care Worker II qualifications. As of 2000, the new regulations require that in addition, 20% of staff must meet or exceed the Child Care Worker III qualifications.

Levels:

- Child Care Worker III: Two or more years of training in ECD or equivalent from a recognized college or university
- Child Care Worker IIA: 1,447 course hours
- Child Care Worker II: One year training in ECD or equivalent from a recognized college or university
- Child Care Worker 1A: 405 course hours in ECD or equivalent
- Child Care Worker I: 60 hour introduction to early childhood development course (ECD) or equivalent.

Parent involvement

The operator of the centre must ensure that open communication is maintained with parents and guardians on all matters affecting their child. Parents and guardians must also have reasonable access to the program, inspection reports, written policies, menus, log of injuries, The Child Care Act, and The Regulation and Guidelines, and The Child Care Subsidy Regulation.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

A government Child Care Inspector conducts one required annual inspection and also conducts two to four unannounced visits per year to each child care centre. Centres are also required to have an annual fire and environmental health inspection.

Child Care Inspectors are required to have a background in early childhood education.

If a centre is not in compliance with the regulations, it is given an order to comply. If the centre does not come into compliance within the stated timeframe allowed by the order, the license may be suspended or revoked or the Direct Operating Grant may be frozen. If a license is suspended or revoked, the centre can appeal to the Yukon Child Care Board, composed of community members appointed by the Minister for a two year term. Its decision is binding.

FUNDING

CHILD CARE FEE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents. Eligibility is determined through an income test which is conducted in person in Whitehorse and by mail-in in other parts of the territory. Subsidies may be used for part-time child care. Parents seeking employment may be eligible for part-time child care for two months.

Subsidy is an entitlement for all eligible families and there is no cap on the number of subsidized spaces.

There is no minimum user fee. Group programs and family day care homes may surcharge subsidized parents fees above the maximum subsidy rate. Subsidies may be used in any regulated for-profit or non-profit service.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 2001)

	Turning point	Break-even point
1 parent, 1 child	$20,424	$31,104
2 parents, 2 children	30,144	51,744

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases.

Maximum subsidy rate/child/month (2001)

Infant	$500
Preschool	450
School-age	225
Child with special needs	500

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Recurring funding

One time funding
Start up funding is available to family child care homes of up to $1,000/home in Whitehorse and up to $2,000/home in the rest of the territory. Start up funding is available to child care centres; however there have been no new centres in recent years.

Capital emergency funding is available to child care centres for repairs necessary to meet the health and safety requirements of the child care regulations.

Operating grants
Available to centres licensed before September 1995. In 1998, the total number was frozen: operating grants became available to a new centre or family child care home only when old funded spaces closed. This freeze was lifted April 1, 1999 so all licensed child care programs now receive an operating grant.

Operating grants are based on a point system and are provided in three categories: age and enrollment of children, training of staff, and building occupancy. Family child care homes are eligible for the enrollment and training components of the grant, but not the occupancy components.

Enrollment component:

– Infants	11 points
– Toddlers	7 points
– Preschoolers	5 points
– School age	4 points
– Children with special needs	11 points

Training component:

– Child Care Worker III	21 points
– Child Care Worker II A	16 points
– Child Care Worker II	11 points
– Child Care Worker I A	8 points
– Child Care Worker I	4 points

Occupancy component
- For each $50/month spent on rent and utilities 1 point
- For each point, $16/month is paid to the centre or home on a quarterly basis.
- Centres and family day homes that provide a hot lunch and two snacks a day receive an additional $25/child/ month in their operating grant.

TERRITORIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2001)

Fee subsidies	$2,832,085
One-time funding	30,740
Recurring funding	1,542,397
Supported child care funding	35,000
Total	$4,440,222

Other funding
Approximately $19,000 was spent from the social assistance budget on child care. This included covering the cost of parent surcharges above the subsidy rates and up to three dollars an hour as a last resort after subsidy for informal care. Approximately 2,600 of the social assistance spending was on unregulated care. The Whitehorse Child Development Centre received $900,000 to provide a range of services in regulated and unregulated child care.

SALARIES

Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff (full- and part-time staff combined) (2000)

Assistant teachers	$9.97
Teachers	12.06
Teacher directors	n/a
Administrative directors	n/a

Source: Information provided by territorial officials.

Family child care
Information not available.

FEES

Median monthly parent fees for centre-based full-time care (2000)

Infants (0-17 mos)	$630
Toddlers (18 mos-3 yrs)	550
Preschoolers (3 yrs-5.11 yrs)	514
School-age	250

Source: Information provided by territorial officials.

Average daily fee in family child care
Approximately the same as in centre-based care.

ADMINISTRATION

Under the Department of Health and Social Services, the Child Care Services Unit is responsible for licensing and monitoring child care and for fee subsidy administration.

MUNICIPAL AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

Legislation permits municipalities to hold licenses to directly operate child care programs, although none currently do so.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

There is no current plan for child care development in the Yukon. New child care programs are developed on the basis of demonstrated community need.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1961 A preschool playgroup was included in the activities at the Skookum Jim Memorial Hall in Whitehorse.

1968 A kindergarten program and after-school tutorial session for school-age children was established in White-horse.

1974 The Yukon Child Care Association was formed.

1979 The *Day Care Ordinance*, providing for licensing child care, was passed.

1986 Regulations were revised and operating grants introduced.

1987 A capital grant program was established.

1988 *Working Together: A Child Care Strategy for the Yukon*, a four year plan for expanding child care in the Yukon was presented by the government.

1989 The government released its strategy for the implementation of the Working Together document and the expansion of child care.

1990 Enactment of *The Child Care Act*. The First Year Review reported on the first year of the four year plan.

1992 Federal grant to Yukon College for the provision of distance early childhood education courses.

1993 The consultation process on revised regulations and proposed new guidelines (which, for the first time, will cover school-aged child care) is completed.

1995 New child care, family child care, subsidy and school-age regulations were implemented. Guidelines and policies for child care centres and family child care were published and circulated by the Department of Health and Social Services.

In addition to new spaces in non-profit centres and family day care homes, the child care fee subsidy program recognized cost of living differences between remote and less remote communities.

1999 The moratorium placed on funding in September 1995 was lifted and all licensed child care programs in the Yukon received a direct operating grant.

The territorial government gave the Yukon Child Care Association funding ($150,000) in 1999 to apply to training and conference costs for people in the early childhood development field.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILD CARE AND OTHER ECEC SERVICES

1998 A national study of wages, working conditions and quality, *You Bet I Care!*, found that — based on a sample of full-time centres for children 0-6 years and regulated family child care — the Yukon scored 4.9 on the ECERS-R (preschool rooms), 5.2 on the ITERS (infant rooms), and 4.6 on the FDCRS (family child care). (See Table 25 for elaboration.)

2001 According to territorial officials, the majority of centres do not meet the requirements for trained staff in the regulations and have been granted exemptions.

2001 Eligibility for fee subsidy was expanded and family child care providers became eligible for the hot lunch component of the operating grant.

2001 In response to the *You Bet I Care!* study, the minister of Health and Social Services asked Yukon Child Care Board to explore the Yukon results and to identify ways to improve the cognitive, language and social development of Yukon children. As a first step, the Board distributed a survey to all licensed child care programs in the fall of 2001 to explore program supports and resources needed to help children's development.

2001 Early Childhood Development Initiative allocation for the Yukon was $300,000. $90,000 was allocated to the Child Development Centre. The balance was allocated to the Healthy Families Initiative which provides in-home assistance and education to new parents, universal screening at birth, and intensive follow-up services where necessary.

2002 The capital budget was increased by $50,000 for improved playground equipment and to address health and safety concerns in child care centres.

KEY TERRITORIAL ECEC ORGANIZATIONS

Yukon Child Care Association
P.O. Box 31710, Main Street
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 6L3
Telephone: 867-668-2485 or 867-667-4013
Facsimile: 867-668-3831

Society of Yukon Family Day Homes
12 Tutshi Road
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 3R3
Telephone: 867-668-6349
Facsimile: 867-393-3902

TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Yukon Teachers' Association
2064-2nd Avenue
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1A9
Telephone: 867-668-6777 or 1-866-668-2097
Facsimile: 867-667-4324
Website: www.yta.yk.ca

Table 3
Varieties of ECEC services in all jurisdictions, Canada – 2001

Jurisdiction	Program(s)	Ministry/Department
Government of Canada	• First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative	Human Resources Development Canada
	• First Nations Head Start	Health Canada
	• Aboriginal Head Start	Health Canada
	• Child Day Care (Ontario and Alberta)	Indian and Northern Affairs
	• Aboriginal Head Start New Brunswick	Indian and Northern Affairs
	• First Nations Elementary Education (pre-K and kindergarten)	Indian and Northern Affairs
	• Childminding	Immigration Canada
	• Military Family Resource Centres	Department of National Defense
	• Early Childhood Development Initiative	Human Resources Development Canada
	• Child Care Expense Deduction	Canada Customs and Revenue Agency
	• Maternity/parental leave benefit	Human Resources Development Canada
	• Community Action Programs for Children	Health Canada
Newfoundland & Labrador	• Child care (day care centres, family child care, school-age centres)	Department of Health and Community Services
	• Kindergarten	Ministry of Education
	• Family resource programs	Department of Health and Community Services
New Brunswick	• Child care (day care centres, community day care homes, school-age day care centres)	Department of Family and Community Services
	• Kindergarten	Ministry of Education
	• Nursery schools	Regulated only upon complaint or request
Prince Edward Island	• Child care (early childhood centres, school-age child care centres, family day care homes, occasional centres)	Ministry of Health and Social Services
	• Kindergarten (note that kindergarten is delivered by child care centres)	Ministry of Health and Social Services, Ministry of Education
Nova Scotia	• Child care (child care centres, preschools, nursery schools, school-age centres and child development centres)	Ministry of Community Services
	• Grade Primary	Ministry of Education
Québec	• Centres de la petite enfance (CPEs including centres and family child care)	Ministère de la Famille et de l'Enfance
	• Garderies	Ministère de la Famille et de l'Enfance
	• Maternelle	Ministère de l'Education
	• Pré-maternelle	Ministère de l'Education

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

	• Passe-partout	Ministère de l'Education
	• Halte garderies	Not regulated
	• Preschools	Not regulated
Ontario	• Child care (centres, nursery schools, supervised private home day care or home child care)	Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services
	• Kindergarten	Ministry of Education
	• Junior kindergarten	Ministry of Education
	• Family resource programs	Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services
Manitoba	• Child care (centres, nursery schools, family day care, group family day care, school-age centres, occasional centres)	Manitoba Family Services and Housing
	• Kindergarten	Manitoba Education
Saskatchewan	• Child day care (child care centres, family child care)	Ministry of Social Services
	• Kindergarten	Saskatchewan Learning
	• Pre-K	Saskatchewan Learning
	• Preschools	Not regulated
Alberta	• Child day care (day care centres, nursery schools, approved family day homes, drop-in centres)	Alberta Children's Services
	• Early childhood services (kindergarten)	Alberta Learning
	• Out-of-school child care	Not under provincial aegis
British Columbia	• Child care (centres, preschool, family child care, school-age child care, child minding, other centre-based services, Child Care Resource and Referral Programs)	Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, Ministry of Health Planning, Ministry of Human Resources
	• Supported Child Care (special needs)	Ministry of Children and Family Development
	• Kindergarten	Ministry of Education
	• Government integrated early childhood development strategy	Minister of State for Early Childhood Development
Northwest Territories	• Child care (day care centres, nursery schools, after-school care, family day homes)	Department of Education, Culture and Employment
	• Kindergarten	Department of Education, Culture and Employment
Nunavut	• Child care (day care centres, nursery schools, after-school care, family day homes)	Department of Education
	• Kindergarten	Department of Education
Yukon	• Child care (centres, school-age child care, family day homes)	Department of Health and Social Services
	• Kindergarten	Department of Education
	• Preschools	Not regulated

Note: In addition to the provincial/territorial services listed above, all jurisdictions have additional programs that deliver cash payments to parents to pay for unregulated child care. These are identified in each provincial/territorial section under PUBLIC FUNDING.

Table 4
Number of children 0-12 years by province/territory – 2001 (rounded)

Province/Territory	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-12 yrs	Total 0-12 yrs
Newfoundland & Labrador	15,100	15,300	46,400	76,700
Prince Edward Island	4,600	5,100	13,000	22,600
Nova Scotia	30,000	31,400	80,400	141,800
New Brunswick	22,200	26,600	63,300	112,200
Québec	225,000	234,700	655,500	1,115,200
Ontario	408,200	436,400	1,099,800	1,944,400
Manitoba	38,800	40,000	107,100	185,900
Saskatchewan	37,500	37,900	93,400	168,900
Alberta	112,300	121,000	288,500	521,900
British Columbia	123,100	125,500	353,100	601,700
Northwest Territories[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nunavut[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Yukon Territory[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Canada[1]	**1,016,700**	**1,073,900**	**2,800,600**	**4,891,300**

[1] Information for the territories not available. Therefore, totals do not include the territories. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 5
Children 0-12 years with mothers in the paid labour force by province/territory – 2001 (rounded)

Province/Territory	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-12 yrs	Total 0-12 yrs
Newfoundland & Labrador	8,900	9,000	31,200	49,200
Prince Edward Island	3,200	3,500	10,100	16,900
Nova Scotia	20,000	20,300	56,800	97,200
New Brunswick	13,700	17,600	45,200	76,500
Québec	144,000	160,100	469,000	773,100
Ontario	253,400	285,400	786,500	1,325,400
Manitoba	23,400	25,800	79,200	128,200
Saskatchewan	22,800	24,100	65,800	112,600
Alberta	62,200	72,700	205,700	340,500
British Columbia	71,400	76,400	241,200	388,900
Northwest Territories[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nunavut[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Yukon Territory[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Canada[1]	**623,000**	**695,000**	**1,990,700**	**3,308,700**

[1] Information for the territories not available. Therefore, totals do not include the territories. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6
Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child – 2001 (rounded estimate)

Province/ Territory	Youngest child less than 3 years old		Youngest child 3-5 years old		Youngest child 6-15 years old	
	No. of mothers in the workforce	(%)	No. of mothers in the workforce	(%)	No. of mothers in the workforce	(%)
Newfoundland & Labrador	8,000	64.1	6,000	66.0	26,000	74.4
Prince Edward Island	3,000	76.9	2,000	79.3	8,000	85.4
Nova Scotia	18,000	71.4	13,000	72.2	44,000	78.1
New Brunswick	13,000	66.8	12,000	74.4	35,000	78.6
Québec	133,000	67.3	108,000	75.1	340,000	79.1
Ontario	230,000	67.0	187,000	74.2	579,000	82.1
Manitoba	22,000	65.7	17,000	75.1	56,000	85.5
Saskatchewan	21,000	64.9	14,000	73.5	46,000	81.7
Alberta	56,000	59.5	47,000	71.4	147,000	83.5
British Columbia	65,000	62.8	49,000	69.4	185,000	77.3
Northwest Territories[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nunavut[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Yukon Territory[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Canada[1]	**568,000**	**65.8**	**456,000**	**73.4**	**1,465,000**	**80.7**

[1]Information for the territories not available. Therefore, totals do not include the territories. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 7
Family-related leave[1] by province/territory – 2001

	Maternity Leave	Parental Leave	Adoption Leave	Family Responsibility
NF	17 weeks.	35 weeks available to both parents.	17 weeks of adoption leave to which can be added 35 weeks of parental leave.	None
PEI	17 weeks.	35 weeks. The total parental leave for both parents cannot exceed 35 weeks.	52 weeks. The combined total leave for both parents cannot exceed 52 weeks.	None
NS	17 weeks.	Both parents are entitled to 52 weeks which must be taken within 12 months of the child's birth. 35 weeks for birth mothers who have taken pregnancy/maternity leave.	52 weeks.	None
NB	17 weeks.	(Child care leave) 37 weeks may be shared between the parents. The combined total of maternity leave and child care leave taken by one or both parents cannot exceed 52 weeks.	37 weeks.	3 days per year.
QC	18 weeks.[2]	Both the father and the mother of a newborn and the person who adopts a child that has not yet reached school age are entitled to a parental leave without pay of not more than 52 consecutive weeks.	See parental leave.	5 days per year.
ON	17 weeks.	35 weeks for birth mothers who took maternity leave; 37 weeks for other parent. Leaves may be taken by both parents consecutively.	37 weeks.	10 days emergency leave.[3]

[1] Leave provisions are determined by provinces/territories under Labour Legislation while benefits to pay for these leaves are provided by the federal government under Employment Legislation. See FEDERAL ECEC section for a fuller description of federal family leave benefit provisions.
[2] An additional 6 weeks is available to the birth mother if she is unable to return to work for health reasons related to the pregnancy or birth.
[3] This leave is only available to those who work for an employer with more than 50 employees.

MB	17 weeks.	Both parents may take up to 37 weeks.	37 weeks.	None
SK	18 weeks.	Birth mothers may take 34 weeks immediately following maternity leave. The other parent may also take up to 37 weeks. These parental leaves may be taken consecutively.	18 weeks followed by 34 weeks of parental leave. Other parent may take up to 37 weeks which may be taken consecutively.	None
AB	15 weeks.	37 weeks may be taken by one parent or shared between two parents but total combined leave cannot exceed 37 weeks.[4]	37 weeks.	None
BC	17 weeks.[2]	35 weeks for birth mothers who have taken maternity leave, and which must be taken immediately following maternity leave. 37 weeks for other parent. 37 weeks if birth mother has not taken maternity leave; must be taken within 52 weeks of the child's birth.[5]	37 weeks.[5]	5 days per year.
NT	17 weeks.	37 weeks may be shared between the parents. 52 weeks is the maximum allowed for combined maternity and parental leave.	37 weeks.	None
NU	17 weeks.	37 weeks may be shared between the parents. 52 weeks is the maximum allowed for combined maternity and parental leave.	37 weeks.	None
YT	17 weeks.	37 weeks. Parents who share leave cannot normally take their leave at the same time, whether or not they work for the same employer.	37 weeks.	None

[4] Legislation stipulates that there is no requirement to grant parental leave to more than one parent at a time if both parents work for the same employer.
[5] An additional 5 weeks is available if the child has a condition requiring additional parental care.

Table 8
Selected characteristics of kindergarten programs by province/territory – 2001

P/T	Program	Enrollment – Five year olds	Spending (2001)	Other features
NF	• Part-time	5,465	n/a	• Recently initiated Kinderstart provides orientation to kindergarten for fours.
PEI	• Part-time • Delivered as part of regulated child care centres	1,698	$3.2 million (full-year equivalent)	
NB	• Full-day (4 hours) • Compulsory	n/a	n/a	
NS	• Full-day (4 hours) • Very limited provision for fours • Compulsory	10,368	n/a	
QC	• Full-day – fives • Part-time – fours (There are two separate programs for fours: pre-maternelle and passe-partout. Both of these were initiated for low-income children).	• Fives – 77,500 • Fours – 6,932 + 8,879	TOTAL n/a PER CHILD • $1,694 per five • $1,879 per four (pre-maternelle) • $900 – passe-partout	• Kindergarten for fours are no longer being developed as four year olds may attend full-time child care.
ON	• Part-time in most boards (French boards likely to have full-day for fives). Almost all boards provide kindergarten for fours although it is not mandated.	• Fives – 133,386 • Fours – 114,669	TOTAL • Fives – $439 million • Fours – $383 million PER CHILD • Per five – $3,337 • Per four – $3,332 (part-day equivalent)	• Both "public" and Catholic school system.
MN	• Part-time in most boards • Limited provision for fours	13,000 (est.)	TOTAL n/a PER CHILD Per five – $3,500	
SK	• Part-time fives • Threes and fours – "At risk" children in "at-risk" communities (very limited enrollment)	• Fives – 11,961 • Fours – n/a	TOTAL n/a PER CHILD • Per five – $2,100 • Per four – n/a	• Provision is at the discretion of school boards. • Both "public" and Catholic school system.
AB	• Part-time fives • Two to fours with disabilities	• Fives – 26,191 • Fours – 14,757	TOTAL n/a	• Can be delivered in

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

		• Threes – 1,329 • Twos – 250	PER CHILD Per child – $2,184	public schools or in private Early Childhood Services. • Both "public" and Catholic school system.
BC	• Part-time fives • Limited provision for fours • Compulsory	39,154	TOTAL $89,155,500 PER CHILD $2,100	
NT	• Part-time fives	792	TOTAL $3.6 million PER CHILD $4,570	• Both "public" and Catholic school system.
NU	• Part-time fives	n/a	n/a	• Kindergarten is delivered in Inuktitut.
YT	• Part-time • Limited provision for fours	400	n/a	• Both "public" and Catholic school system.

Table 9
Regulated child care spaces by province/territory (estimates) – 2001

Province/ Territory	Centre-based full- and part-day child care for preschool-aged children	School-age child care	Regulated family child care	Total regulated spaces	Percent of children 0-12 for whom there is a regulated child care space (%)
Newfoundland & Labrador	3,632	594	n/a[1]	4,226[1]	5.5
Prince Edward Island	3,697[2]	519	54	4,270[2]	14.0[2]
Nova Scotia	11,314[3]	n/a[3]	150	11,464	8.1
New Brunswick	5,820	4,610	150	11,086[4 5]	9.9[5]
Québec	77,271	101,655	55,979	234,905[5]	21.1[5]
Ontario	118,110 (est.)[6]	55,025[6]	n/a[6]	173,135[6]	8.9
Manitoba	14,130	4,971	3,921	23,022	12.4
Saskatchewan	4,106	845	2,215	7,166[5]	4.2[5]
Alberta	41,011	n/a[7]	6,682	47,693	9.1
British Columbia	36,383	19,533	17,033	72,949	12.1
Northwest Territories	866	152	216	1,234	n/a[8]
Nunavut	832	100	n/a	932	n/a[8]
Yukon Territory	669	251	428	1,348[5]	n/a[5 8]
Canada	**317,841**	**188,255**	**86,828**	**593,430 (est.)[9]**	**12.1 (calculated)**

[1] At the time of data collection, regulated family child care was operating with pilot project status. Therefore there are no statistics on the number of spaces in family child care.
[2] Part-day kindergarten spaces have been included in PEI's figures for centre-based spaces and for total regulated spaces. However, for the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions, they have not been included here in the calculation of the percent of children for whom there is a child care space.
[3] This figure includes school-age child care as breakdown is not available.
[4] The total number of regulated spaces does not represent all spaces. Breakdown is only possible for those spaces funded under the Quality Improvement Funding Support, which represents 93.5% of spaces in New Brunswick.
[5] Nursery schools (part-time) are not regulated in New Brunswick, Québec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon Territory. These are not included in these figures.
[6] Breakdowns of full- and part-time and family child care are not available by age. Ontario estimates about 55,000 regulated spaces for school-age children. Number of children in family child care is not available.
[7] Regulation is not required in school-age care. It is not included in this table but is included in the SPACE STATISTICS in the Alberta section.
[8] Information for number of children 0-12 years not available for the Northwest Territories, the Yukon Territory and Nunavut. Therefore percentage of children 0-12 for whom there is a regulated child care space cannot be calculated.
[9] Total does not equal the sum of all service totals in the table.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Table 10
Sponsorship of regulated centre-based programs by province/territory – 2001

Province/Territory	Not-for-profit and publicly-operated[1]	For-profit	Percent not-for-profit (%)
Newfoundland & Labrador	1,523	2,703	36
Prince Edward Island	2,300	1,970	54
Nova Scotia	6,501	4,963	57
New Brunswick	n/a	n/a	n/a
Québec	153,225[2]	25,701[3]	86
Ontario	143,522[4]	29,613	83
Manitoba	17,614	1,487	92
Saskatchewan	4,878	73	99
Alberta	18,080	22,931	44
British Columbia	32,699	23,217	58
Northwest Territories	1,018	0	100
Nunavut	932	0	100
Yukon Territory	674	246	73
Canada[5]	**382,966**	**112,904**	77

[1] Full- and part-time spaces may be included in these figures because some provinces cannot provide break-downs. Where possible, however, figures have been given for full-time spaces only.
[2] This figure includes school-age spaces which are under the aegis of the Ministry of Education.
[3] This figure includes all spaces in non-CPE centres which may be for-profit or non-profit.
[4] This figure includes centre-based spaces run by municipalities.
[5] Totals do not include New Brunswick. Therefore, the sum of non-profit and for-profit spaces in this table does not equal total spaces in centres in Table 9.

Table 11
On-reserve child care centres by province/territory[1] – 2001

Province/Territory	Number of on-reserve centres	Regulated by province/ territory	Provincial/ territorial funding	Federal funding
Newfoundland & Labrabor	2	on request	yes	yes
Prince Edward Island	1[2]	no	no	yes
Nova Scotia	11	no	no	yes
New Brunswick	3	on request	no	yes
Québec	25	yes	yes	yes
Ontario	86	yes	yes[3]	yes[3]
Manitoba	(est.) 60	no	no	yes
Saskatchewan	(est.) 45	no	no	yes
Alberta	22	no[4]	yes[3]	yes[3 4]
British Columbia	65	yes	yes	yes
Northwest Territories[5]	76[6]	yes	yes	yes
Nunavut[5]	(est.) 20	yes	yes	yes
Yukon Territory[5]	9	yes	yes	yes

[1] Off-reserve child care centres and family child care agencies serving Aboriginal families are available in some provinces/territories. Refer to ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE section of each province/territory for details. In addition, see ABORIGINAL ECEC for further information.
[2] This represents an unlicensed kindergarten centre.
[3] Provincial funding is available through agreements between the federal government and Ontario and Alberta. See individual provinces for more information.
[4] On-reserve child care centres are eligible for federal government funding equivalent to parent subsidies if provincial licensing standards are met.
[5] There are no reserves in territories so information refers to child care for Aboriginal communities.
[6] This figure may include family child care homes. This represents the total supply of child care in the Northwest Territories.

Table 12
Total provincial allocation and allocation for each regulated child care space by province/territory – 2001

Province/Territory	Allocation for each regulated child care space[1] ($)	Total provincial allocation ($)
Newfoundland & Labrador	1,835	7,753,000
Prince Edward Island	1,334	4,229,708[2]
Nova Scotia	1,125	12,892,278
New Brunswick	1,066	11,823,000
Québec	4,651	1,092,427,651[3]
Ontario	2,608	451,500,000
Manitoba	2,731	62,876,400
Saskatchewan	2,279	16,331,911
Alberta	1,206	57,500,000
British Columbia	2,256	164,563,000
Northwest Territories	1,298	1,602,000[4]
Nunavut	2,001	1,865,000[4]
Yukon Territory	3,294	4,440,222
Canada	**$3,185**	**$1,889,804,170**

[1] Estimates based on total provincial allocation for regulated child care and total regulated spaces.
[2] For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions where kindergarten is in the public education system, this calculation did not include PEI's spaces in part-day kindergarten or its spending on kindergarten because PEI's kindergartens are in child care centres.
[3] This figure includes expenditure on school-age care from the Ministry of Education.
[4] This includes allocations for the fee subsidy program which includes both regulated and unregulated child care.

Table 13
Total provincial allocation and allocation to regulated child care for each child 0-12 years in the province – 2001

Province/Territory	Allocation for each child in the province[1] ($)	Total provincial allocation ($)
Newfoundland & Labrador	101	7,753,000
Prince Edward Island	187	4,229,708[2]
Nova Scotia	91	12,892,278
New Brunswick	105	11,823,000
Québec	980	1,092,427,651[3]
Ontario	232	451,500,000
Manitoba	338	62,876,400
Saskatchewan	97	16,331,911
Alberta	110	57,500,000
British Columbia	273	164,563,000
Northwest Territories	n/a[4]	1,602,000[5]
Nunavut	n/a[4]	1,865,000[5]
Yukon Territory	n/a[4]	4,440,222
Canada	**$386**	**$1,889,804,170**

[1] Estimates based on total provincial allocation for regulated child care and total number of children 0-12 years.
[2] For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions where kindergarten is in the public education system, this calculation did not include PEI's spending on kindergarten because PEI's kindergartens are in child care centres.
[3] This figure includes expenditure on school-age care from the Ministry of Education.
[4] Information for the number of children 0-12 not available for the territories. Therefore, allocation for each child in the territories cannot be calculated.
[5] This includes allocations for the fee subsidy program which includes both regulated and unregulated child care.

Table 14
Early Childhood Development Initiative funds spent on regulated child care by province/territory, 2000-2001 (rounded)

Province/Territory	Total ECDI allocation ($ millions)	Expenditure on regulated child care ($ millions)[1]	Percent of ECDI funds spent on regulated child care (%)
Newfoundland & Labrador	5.2	2.0	38.5
Prince Edward Island	1.3	0.5[2]	38.5
Nova Scotia	9.1	6.0	65.9
New Brunswick	7.3	4.4	60.3
Québec[3]	71.6	not applicable	not applicable
Ontario	114.1	0	0
Manitoba	11.1	4.7	42.3
Saskatchewan	10.0	1.0	10.0
Alberta	29.7	not specified[4]	—
British Columbia	39.9	not specified	—
Northwest Territories	0.4	not specified	—
Nunavut	0.3	0	0
Yukon Territory	0.3	0[5]	0
Canada	$300.3	$18.6	8 % (est.)[6]

[1] See RECENT DEVELOPMENTS in individual provinces/territories for details on ECDI funds spent on child care.
[2] This figure represents spending on kindergarten.
[3] While Québec shares the same concerns on early childhood development, it does not adhere to this agreement.
[4] Funds are distributed to Child and Family Service Authorities; there is no province-wide strategy for this fund.
[5] $90,000 was allocated to the Child Development Centre which provides a range of services to both unregulated and regulated child care.
[6] The calculation for percent of funds spent on child care did not include Québec's ECDI allocation.

Table 15
National Child Benefit reinvestment strategy funds spent on regulated child care by province/territory, 2000-2001 (rounded)[1]

Province/Territory	Total provincial/territorial expenditure on NCB reinvestment strategy ($ millions)	Expenditure from NCB reinvestment spent on regulated child care[2] ($ millions)	Percent of NCB reinvestment funds spent on regulated child care (%)
Newfoundland & Labrador	16.7	2.9[3]	17
Prince Edward Island	1.8	0.9	50
Nova Scotia	21.5	1.3	6
New Brunswick	8.4	2.7[4]	31
Québec	not applicable[5]	not applicable[5]	not applicable[5]
Ontario	205.9	0[6]	0[6]
Manitoba	30.7	8.0	26
Saskatchewan	35.8	0	0
Alberta	32.1	6.3	20
British Columbia	176.3	16.4[7]	9
Northwest Territories	0.9	0	0
Nunavut	2.8	0	0
Yukon Territory	2.1	0	0
Canada	**$534.9**	**$38.4**	**7%**

[1] Some provinces and territories have spent NCB funds in both regulated and unregulated child care. This table represents spending on regulated child care only. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
[2] For details on provincial/territorial enhancements to child care, see the 2001 Progress Report available at www.nationalchildbenefit.ca
[3] Figure excludes spending on unlicensed child care, early childhood education certification and child care service consultants.
[4] Figure excludes spending on the Alternative Child Care Program.
[5] Québec agrees with the basic principles of the NCB but chose not to participate in the Agreement.
[6] This excludes the Ontario Child Care Supplement for Working Families.
[7] Figure includes announced spending on: Supported Child Care, Before and After School Care, and Child Care Subsidy program to cover increased subsidy uptake for Before and After-School Care. See RECENT DEVELOPMENTS in BC for information on its new policy direction.

Table 16
Net income eligibility levels for full and partial child care fee subsidies by province/territory – 2001

Province/Territory	Family size	Full subsidy up to ($)	Partial subsidy up to ($)
Newfoundland & Labrador	1 parent, 1 child	14,160	20,280
	2 parents, 2 children	15,240	25,560
Prince Edward Island	1 parent, 1 child	13,440	25,440
	2 parents, 2 children	19,200	51,040
Nova Scotia	1 parent, 1 child	16,812	24,540
	2 parents, 2 children	17,712	34,092
New Brunswick	All family sizes	15,000	—
	1 child, 2 years or older	15,000	23,100
	1 child, under 2 years old	15,000	24,180
Québec	not applicable[1]	—	—
Ontario	n/a[2]	n/a	n/a
Manitoba	1 parent, 1 child	13,787	24,369
	2 parents, 2 children	18,895	40,059
Saskatchewan	1 parent, 1 child	(gross) 19,668	(gross) 31,920
	1 parent, 2 children	(gross) 20,868	(gross) 45,720
Alberta	1 parent, 1 child	20,520	31,680
	2 parents, 2 children	24,120	44,520
British Columbia	1 parent, 1 child	18,984[3]	27,816[3]
	2 parents, 2 children	23,016	31,846
Northwest Territories	n/a[4]	n/a	n/a
Nunavut	n/a[5]	n/a	n/a
Yukon Territory	1 parent, 1 child	20,424	31,104
	2 parents, 2 children	30,144	51,744

[1] Québec provides publicly-funded services rather than providing subsidies to selected families.
[2] Eligibility for subsidy is determined by provincially determined needs tests with income being only one of a number of items considered. Each municipality can determine the rates within a range, a situation which creates considerable variation across the province. There are no province-wide maximum income levels for full or partial fee subsidies.
[3] Effective April 2002, several changes were made to British Columbia's subsidy program. See RECENT DEVELOPMENTS for details.
[4] Eligibility for subsidy varies according to number of family members, actually shelter costs, community of residence and eligibility for enhanced benefits. These needs are based on Income Assistance Program schedules. A needs assessment is applied so there is no set break-even point. There is no territory-wide maximum subsidy. Maximums are set for type of care.
[5] Eligibility varies with clients' actual housing, utility and child care costs, plus social assistance rates of food and clothing. A needs assessment is applied so there is no set break-even point. There is no territory-wide maximum subsidy. Maximums are set for type of care.

Table 17
Number and percent of children in regulated child care receiving subsidies by province/territory – 2001

Province/Territory	Number of children receiving subsidies	Percent of children in regulated child care receiving subsidies (%)
Newfoundland & Labrador	1,015	24
Prince Edward Island	1,072	34[1]
Nova Scotia	2,655	23
New Brunswick	2,545	23
Québec	not applicable[2]	not applicable [2]
Ontario	n/a[3]	44[3]
Manitoba	10,964	48
Saskatchewan	3,684	51
Alberta	10,490	22
British Columbia	18,500 (est.)[4]	25
Northwest Territories	n/a	n/a
Nunavut	n/a	n/a
Yukon Territory	790	59
Canada	**127,715**[5]	**36**[6]

[1] Part-day kindergarten in PEI is delivered in child care centres and is publicly-funded. These spaces have not been included here for the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions.
[2] Québec now provides publicly-funded services rather than providing subsidies to selected families.
[3] An estimate for the number of children receiving subsidies was not available in Ontario. The estimated percent of children receiving subsidies was provided. This percent may include subsidies in unregulated child care.
[4] British Columbia subsidizes children in both regulated and unregulated child care. This figure is calculated using an estimated number of subsidies in regulated child care.
[5] For the purpose of calculating a total, an estimate of 76,000 children receiving subsidies in Ontario was used.
[6] Calculation did not include child care spaces in Québec or part-day kindergarten in PEI. Both are publicly-funded and do not rely on subsidies.

Table 18
Median monthly parent fees for full-time centre-based child care – 1998[1]

Province/Territory	Infants (0-17 mos) $	Toddlers (18 mos-3 yrs) $	Preschoolers (3-5.11 yrs) $
Newfoundland & Labrador	n/a[2]	380	360
Prince Edward Island	440	380	360
Nova Scotia	470	412	412
New Brunswick	380	360	360
Québec	477	455	440
Ontario	783	603	541
Manitoba	573	383	368
Saskatchewan	n/a[3]	405	380
Alberta	525	450	425
British Columbia	650	547	460
Northwest Territories	n/a[3]	n/a[3]	n/a[3]
Yukon Territory	630	550	514
Canada	**$531**	**$477**	**$455**

[1] Source: *You Bet I Care!* (See FURTHER READINGS for complete reference.) These figures are the most recent comparable figures available. Some provinces have reported more current data; these have been included in the individual provincial sections. Data may not be comparable across jurisdictions.
[2] No infant care was provided at the time of data collection.
[3] Sample size too small to report.

Table 19
Minimum training requirements for centre-based staff by province/territory – 2001

Province/ Territory	Centre directors	Full-time staff (teachers)	All other staff (assistants)	Additional requirements
Newfoundland & Labrador	Two year ECE diploma and two years experience.	One year ECE certificate and one year experience required for one staff member per group.	30-60 hour course.	30 hours professional development every three years required for all staff.
Prince Edward Island	One year ECE diploma.	One year ECE diploma required for one staff member per group.	Not specified.	30 hours of professional development every three years for all staff.
Nova Scotia	Two years experience, one course and 35 hour workshop OR one year ECE training.	Two years experience, one course and 35 hour workshop OR one year ECE training required for 2/3 of staff.	Not specified.	First aid and child abuse register checks required for all staff.
New Brunswick	No training required.[1]	No training required.	Not specified.	All staff required to be at least 16 years old (staff 16-19 must be supervised by a staff at least 19 years old). First aid certificate required for all staff.
Québec	Not specified.	2/3 of staff in CPEs and 1/3 of staff in garderies require ECE college diploma.	Not specified.	None.
Ontario	Two year ECE diploma from an approved College of Applied Arts and Technology (CAAT) and two years experience.	Two year ECE diploma from an approved CAAT required for one staff member per group.	Not specified.	None.
Manitoba	Post-diploma continuing education certificate or a degree program from an approved post-secondary institution in Manitoba and one year experience.[2]	Diploma in ECE from a recognized community college in Manitoba[3] required for 2/3 of staff (for 0-six year olds).	Not specified.	Must be at least 18 years of age. Completion of first aid course is required for all staff.
Saskatchewan	Two year ECE diploma.[4]	120 hour college course required for all staff employed for 65 hours/month.[5]	Not specified.	First aid and CPR required for all staff.

[1] Effective April 1, 2003, the director or his/her designate OR 1/4 staff will be required to have one year college training in child care or its equivalent.
[2] For school-age and nursery schools in Manitoba, directors require an ECE diploma from a recognized community college and one year of experience. For teachers in school-age and nursery schools, 1/2 of the staff must have an ECE diploma.
[3] Equivalency is completion of the Manitoba Child Day Care Competency-Based Assessment program or the Competency Based Assessment/Prior Learning Assessment program.

Alberta	Two year ECE diploma.	One year ECE certificate required for 1/4 of staff.	50 hour course.	None.
British Columbia[6]	Not specified.	- For groups under 36 months: Ten months ECE training at an approved institution, 500 hours of supervised work experience and specialized training related to infant/toddler care required for one staff member for each group of 5-8 children. - For groups 30 months to school-age: Ten months ECE training at an approved institution and 500 hours of supervised work experience required for one staff member per group. - For special needs facilities: Ten months ECE training at an approved institution, 500 hours of supervised work experience and specialized training related to children with special needs required for one staff member per group of four or fewer children.	Refer to province for details on staffing composition.	Not specified.
Northwest Territories	No training required.	No training required.	No training required.	Must be 19 years old. First aid certificate and clear criminal record required for all staff.
Nunavut	No training required.	No training required.	No training required.	Must be 19 years old and represent the cultural background of the children. First aid certificate required for all staff.
Yukon Territory	Not specified.	Two year ECD training required for 20% of staff.	One year ECD training for 30 % of other staff. 60 hour course required for all others.	Not specified.

[4] Directors appointed to a centre director position prior to July 2001 require a one year certificate or equivalent, but must upgrade to a two year diploma if they accept employment with another centre.

[5] By January 2005, 30% of staff must have a one year ECE certificate. By January 2007, a further 20% of staff must have a two year ECE diploma.

[6] For out-of-school, child-minding, and occasional or ski resort care, there are no specific early childhood training requirements. Staff must be older than 19 years and have taken a course OR have relevant work experience.

Table 20
Years of early childhood care and education training of centre-based staff[1] – 1998

Province/Territory	Staff with less than 1 year ECEC (%)	Staff with 1 year ECEC (%)	Staff with 2 year ECEC (%)	Staff with 3 year ECEC (%)	Staff with ECEC related BA or more (%)
Newfoundland & Labrador	19.2	12.3	60.5	n/a	5.1
Prince Edward Island	16.0	2.3	66.2	n/a	14.6
Nova Scotia	16.0	14.4	38.3	6.1	17.6
New Brunswick	44.7	36.0	12.9	n/a	6.0
Québec	17.5	6.9	11.5	40.8	15.5
Ontario	11.1	2.8	69.0	5.3	7.3
Manitoba	32.9	6.3	29.5	4.2	20.5
Saskatchewan	40.0	24.8	16.8	0.9	15.6
Alberta	35.4	20.2	30.9	2.0	9.8
British Columbia	9.4	37.1	35.4	5.1	9.4
Northwest Territories	54.5	33.7	4.0	n/a	7.9
Yukon Territory	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Canada	18.2	10.4	42.1	13.3	10.9

[1] Source: *You Bet I Care!* (See FURTHER READINGS for complete reference.) These figures are the most recent comparable figures available.

Table 21
Mean gross hourly wage for centre-based child care staff by province/territory – 1998[1]

Province/Territory	Assistant teacher ($)	Teacher ($)	Teacher-director ($)	Administrative director ($)
Newfoundland & Labrador	6.37	6.76	7.89	12.07
Prince Edward Island	8.18	7.54	11 84	14.37
Nova Scotia	7.04	8.51	10.21	14.58
New Brunswick	6.34	7.12	9.26	10.06
Québec	8.12	11.04	14.05	17.41
Ontario	10.60	13.48	17.48	22.00
Manitoba	8.37	9.49	13.83	17.34
Saskatchewan	8.45	10.74	11.74	14.58
Alberta	7.90	8.36	9.90	12.73
British Columbia	10.55	12.07	14.41	18.73
Northwest Territories	12.07	13.40	19.32	n/a[2]
Yukon Territory	9.97	11.71	n/a[2]	n/a[2]
Canada	**$9.59**	**$11.62**	**$14.52**	**$18.45**

[1] Source: *You Bet I Care!* (See FURTHER READINGS for complete reference.) These figures are the most recent comparable figures available. Some provinces have reported more current data; these have been included in the individual provincial sections and may not be comparable across jurisdictions.
[2] Sample sizes too small to report.

Table 22
Maximum staff:child ratios in full-day centre-based child care by age and province/territory[1] – 2001

Province/Territory	One year old	Three year old	Five year old
Newfoundland & Labrador	1:3	1:8	1:12
Prince Edward Island	1:3	1:10	1:12
Nova Scotia	1:4	1:7	1:15
New Brunswick	1:3	1:7	1:12
Québec	1:5	1:8	1:10
Ontario	3:10	1:8	1:12
Manitoba	1:4	1:8	1:10
Saskatchewan	1:3	1:10	1:10
Alberta	1:4	1:8	1:10
British Columbia	1:4	1:8	1:8
Northwest Territories	1:4	1:8	1:10
Nunavut	1:4	1:8	1:10
Yukon Territory	1:4	1:8	1:8

[1] In some provinces an age may fall into more than one age range. The group size in this table represent a choice of the older age range in these cases.

Table 23

Maximum group sizes in full-day centre-based child care by age and province/territory[1] – 2001

Province/Territory	One year old	Three year old	Five year old
Newfoundland & Labrador	6	16	24
Prince Edward Island	6	not specified	not specified
Nova Scotia	not specified	not specified	not specified
New Brunswick	9	14	24
Québec	not specified	not specified	not specified
Ontario	10	16	24
Manitoba	8	16	20
Saskatchewan	6	20	20
Alberta	8	16	20
British Columbia	12	25	25
Northwest Territories	8	16	20
Nunavut	8	16	20
Yukon Territory	8	16	16

[1] In some provinces an age may fall into more than one age range. The group size in this table represent a choice of the older age range in these cases.

Table 24
Requirements for regulated family child care providers by province/territory – 2001

Province/ Territory	Age requirement	Early childhood training or orientation requirements	First aid certification requirement	Other requirements
Newfoundland & Labrador	Not specified	30-60 hour course	Not specified	30 hours of professional development every three years
Prince Edward Island	Not specified	30 hour course	Yes	None specified
Nova Scotia	18	None	Not specified	None specified
New Brunswick	19	None	Yes	None specified
Québec	Not specified	Providers are supervised by a CPE and must complete a 45 hour course.	Yes	None specified
Ontario	18	None, though many agencies provide training.	If working with children with special needs	None specified
Manitoba	18	None [1]	Yes	None specified
Saskatchewan	18	- 40 hour course for those licensed after July 2001 - 120 hour ECE course for providers in group family child care (must be completed within three years)	Yes	Six hours of professional development
Alberta	Not specified	None, though agencies may provide training.	Not specified	None specified
British Columbia	19	Relevant work experience OR a course on the care of young children	Yes	Providers are required to belong to a Child Care Resource and Referral Program to receive the Infant/Toddler grant.
Northwest Territories	19	None	Yes	None specified
Nunavut	19	None	Yes	None specified
Yukon Territory	18	60 hour course or equivalent	Yes	None specified

[1] In April 2002, Manitoba announced mandatory training (40 hour course) for new family child care providers. See Manitoba's RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, APRIL 2002 for more information.

Table 25
Process quality ratings: Mean ECERS-R (1998), ITERS (1998) and FDCRS (1999) scores by province/territory[1]

Province/Territory	ECERS-R[2]		ITERS[2]		FDCRS[2]	
	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean
New Brunswick	39	4.0	21	3.8	13	4.2
Québec	32	4.7	16	3.6	42	4.5
Ontario	39	4.9	19	4.1	39	3.9
Saskatchewan	33	4.1	18	4.2	40	4.5
Alberta	37	5.1	13	5.1	39	4.2
British Columbia	23	5.6	19	5.6	45	5.5
Yukon	12	4.9	9	5.2	13	4.6
Total	**211**	**4.7**	**115**	**4.4**	**231**	**4.5**

[1] *You Bet I Care!* was a national study of staffing and quality in child care centres and regulated family child care. This table presents mean total scores on the ECERS-R, the ITERS and the FDCRS quality rating scales of six provinces and one territory.
[2] The ECERS-R, ITERS and FDCRS are rated on a seven-point scale that is anchored by the following definitions provided by the authors of the scale:
"*Inadequate* describes care that does not even meet custodial care needs, *minimal* describes care that meets custodial and to some small degree basic developmental needs, *good* describes the basic dimensions of developmental care, and *excellent* describes high-quality, personalized care. The *inadequate (1)* and *minimal (3)* ratings usually focus on provision of basic materials and on health and safety precautions. The *good (5)* and *excellent (7)* ratings require positive interaction, planning, and personalized care, as well as good materials." (Doherty, Lero, Goelman, Tougas, & LaGrange, 2000:41)

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Table 26
Maximum number of children permitted in unregulated family child care by province/territory – 2001[1]

Province/Territory	Maximum number of children	Includes provider's children?	Are there further age restrictions?[1]
Newfoundland & Labrador	4	yes	yes
Prince Edward Island	5	yes	yes
Nova Scotia	6	yes	yes
New Brunswick	5	yes	yes
Québec	6	yes	no
Ontario	5	no	no
Manitoba	4	yes	yes
Saskatchewan	8	yes	yes
Alberta	6	yes	yes
British Columbia	2	no	no
Northwest Territories	4	yes	no
Nunavut	4	yes	no
Yukon Territory	3	no	no

[1] Age specifications vary by province. Refer to individual provinces.

Table 27
Number of children 0-12 years by province/territory – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 (rounded in 1000s)

	1992				1995				1998				2001			
	0-2	3-5	6-12	Total 0-12	0-2	3-5	6-12	Total 0-12	0-2	3-5	6-12	Total 0-12	0-2	3-5	6-12	Total 0-12
NF	22	23	63	108	19	22	57	98	17	17	52	86	15	15	46	78
PE	6	6	14	25	5	6	14	25	5	5	14	24	5	5	13	23
NS	37	37	86	160	33	37	86	156	31	33	89	152	30	31	80	142
NB	28	29	72	129	27	29	70	126	23	28	68	119	22	27	63	112
QC	277	225	655	1,158	275	290	627	1,192	243	284	646	1,172	225	235	656	1,115
ON	432	416	964	1,813	440	459	1,024	1,923	419	456	1,098	1,974	408	436	1,100	1,944
MB	50	48	111	209	45	47	106	198	42	45	108	196	39	40	107	186
SK	47	47	112	207	40	45	107	192	37	40	106	182	38	38	93	169
AB	126	124	279	529	117	125	289	530	109	122	301	532	112	121	289	522
BC	133	133	312	579	142	144	338	623	138	151	351	640	123	126	353	602
NT	5[1]	4[1]	8[1]	17[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NU	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
YT	1[1]	1[1]	3[1]	6[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CAN[2]	**1,165**	**1,095**	**2,680**	**4,939**	**1,142**	**1,202**	**2,719**	**5,064**	**1,065**	**1,181**	**2,832**	**5,078**	**1,017**	**1,074**	**2,801**	**4,891**

[1] Estimate.
[2] 1995, 1998 and 2001 information for the territories not available. Therefore, totals do not include the territories. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 28
Number of children 0-12 years with mothers in the paid labour force by province/territory – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 (rounded in 1000s)

	1992				1995				1998				2001			
	0-2	3-5	6-12	Total 0-12	0-2	3-5	6-12	Total 0-12	0-2	3-5	6-12	Total 0-12	0-2	3-5	6-12	Total 0-12
NF	13	13	33	59	10	12	33	55	9	10	30	49	9	9	31	49
PE	4	4	9	17	4	4	10	17	4	4	11	18	3	4	10	17
NS	21	23	49	93	19	21	53	93	18	20	59	97	20	20	57	97
NB	16	17	38	71	15	15	43	73	14	17	44	75	14	18	45	77
QC	164	151	305	620	164	161	400	724	150	175	424	749	144	160	469	773
ON	267	272	556	1,095	262	277	711	1,250	252	294	774	1,320	253	285	787	1,325
MB	25	26	59	111	25	30	76	131	24	30	79	132	23	26	79	128
SK	29	30	67	126	25	30	80	134	22	25	77	124	23	24	66	113
AB	76	73	158	307	72	82	211	366	64	74	207	358	62	73	206	341
BC	72	82	182	336	78	84	245	407	79	89	234	402	71	76	241	389
NT[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NU[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
YT[1]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CAN[1]	**687**	**691**	**1,456**	**2,835**	**674**	**716**	**1,862**	**3,250**	**636**	**738**	**1,939**	**3,323**	**623**	**695**	**1,991**	**3,309**

[1] Information for the territories not available. Therefore, totals do not include the territories. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 29
Regulated child care spaces by province/territory – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001

Province/Territory	1992	1995	1998	2001
Newfoundland & Labrador	3,568	4,202	4,275	4,226
Prince Edward Island	4,123	3,888	3,717	4,270
Nova Scotia	10,826	10,645	11,163	11,464
New Brunswick	7,162	7,952	9,204	11,086
Québec[1]	78,388	111,452	175,002	234,905
Ontario	145,545	147,853	167,090	173,135
Manitoba	18,977	18,846	20,490	23,022
Saskatchewan	6,418	7,266	7,124	7,166
Alberta[2]	51,656	51,088	47,033	47,693
British Columbia	42,927	59,794	68,978	72,949
Northwest Territories	963	1,286	1,351	1,234
Nunavut	n/a	n/a	n/a	932
Yukon Territory	1,020	1,060	1,307	1,348
Canada	**371,573**	**425,332**	**516,734**	**593,430**

[1] Québec's figures include school-age spaces which are under the aegis of the Ministry of Education.
[2] Regulation is not required in school-age care in Alberta. Therefore it is not included in this table.

Table 30
Percent of children 0-12 years[1] for whom there is a regulated child care space by province/territory – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001

Province/Territory	1992 (%)	1995 (%)	1998 (%)	2001 (%)
Newfoundland and Labrador	3.3	4.3	5.0	5.5
Prince Edward Island	16.2	15.5	15.4	14.0[2]
Nova Scotia	6.8	6.8	7.3	8.1
New Brunswick	5.5[3]	6.3[3]	7.7[3]	9.9[3]
Québec	6.8[4 3]	9.4[3 4]	14.9[3 4]	21.1[3 4 5]
Ontario	8.1	7.7	8.5	8.9
Manitoba	9.1	9.5	10.5	12.4
Saskatchewan	3.1[3]	3.8[3]	3.9[3]	4.2[3]
Alberta	9.7	9.6	8.8	9.1
British Columbia	7.4	9.6	10.8	12.1
Northwest Territories[6]	5.7	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nunavut[6]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Yukon Territory[6]	16.7[3]	n/a	n/a	n/a
Canada	**7.5**	**8.4**	**10.0**	**12.1**

[1] Note the drop in population of children 0-12 years over the decade. (See Table 27).
[2] PEI introduced publicly-funded half-day kindergarten in September 2000. (Kindergarten in PEI is still part of the regulated child care system as it was before 2000.) For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions where kindergarten is under the public education system, it has not been included in the calculation of the percent of children for whom there is a child care space. Therefore PEI's figures for 1998 and 2001 are not comparable.
[3] Nursery schools (part-time) are not regulated in New Brunswick, Québec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon Territory so are not included in these figures.
[4] Québec's figures include school-age spaces which are under the aegis of the Ministry of Education.
[5] By 2000, all regulated child care spaces that are part of CPEs became primarily publicly funded. See Québec section for more information.
[6] Information for number of children 0-12 years not available for the territories. Therefore, percent of children for whom there is a regulated child care space cannot be calculated and have been reported as n/a in the table.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Table 31
Percent of regulated centre-based spaces that are not-for-profit by province/territory – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001[1]

Province/Territory	1992 (%)	1995 (%)	1998 (%)	2001 (%)
Newfoundland and Labrador	22	34	39	36
Prince Edward Island	65	68	58	54
Nova Scotia	60	60	57	57
New Brunswick	57	60	n/a	n/a
Québec[2]	82	82	86	86
Ontario	76	80	83	83
Manitoba	90	88	87	92
Saskatchewan	94	98	99	99
Alberta	35	38	41	44
British Columbia	61	61	60	58
Northwest Territories	83	92	97	100
Nunavut	n/a	n/a	n/a	100
Yukon Territory	86	75	74	73
Canada	**70**	**72**	**76**	**77**

[1] Full- and part-time spaces may be included in these figures because some provinces cannot provide breakdowns. Not-for-profit category includes both non-profit and publicly-operated spaces.
[2] Québec's figures have been calculated including school-age child care spaces which are under the aegis of the Ministry of Education.

Table 32
Allocations in actual and constant 2001 dollars for regulated child care – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001[1]

	1992		1995		1998		2001
	Actual ($)	Adjusted to constant 2001 $ [2]	Actual ($)	Adjusted to constant 2001 $ [2]	Actual ($)	Adjusted to constant 2001 $ [2]	Actual ($)
NF	1,668,100	1,909,975	2,980,000	3,268,295	3,300,000	3,485,701	7,753,000
PEI	2,765,648	3,169,433	1,682,507	1,866,577	2,578,479	2,787,676	4,229,708[3]
NS	11,420,600	13,282,158	11,843,625	13,269,880	15,684,800	16,812,371	12,892,278
NB	3,646,152	4,182,136	3,200,000	3,549,710	5,523,000	5,892,913	11,823,000
QC	140,725,500	159,301,266	203,694,724	226,505,332	299,860,301	319,024,305	1,092,427,651
ON	420,139,729	494,504,461	541,800,000	611,408,054	470,500,000	508,520,202	451,500,000
MB	42,151,900	51,088,103	45,203,800	51,250,707	45,189,300	48,468,524	62,876,400
SK	12,306,700	14,804,960	12,713,910	14,307,609	15,745,896	16,943,035	16,387,911
AB	66,613,000	80,002,213	67,623,000	77,347,831	54,297,000	58,907,585	57,500,000
BC[4]	55,798,000	64,279,296	98,680,893	105,357,172	128,865,000	134,956,800	164,563,000
NT	2,286,000	n/a	1,708,359	n/a	2,271,000	n/a	1,602,000
NU	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,865,000
YT	2,437,744	n/a	4,148,490	n/a	4,763,850	n/a	4,440,222
Canada	**$761,959,073**	**$886,920,361**	**$995,279,308**	**$1,111,809,131**	**$1,048,578,626**	**$1,123,890,903**	**$1,889,804,170**

[1] It is interesting to note that in some provinces, per child capita allocations increased while total provincial allocations dropped or were static. As Table 27 shows, the child population, especially in the younger age groups, has dropped in most provinces throughout the 1990s.
[2] Adjusted values based on Consumer Price Index, All-Items, Annual Averages (Index, 1992=100).
[3] In PEI, this figure does not include spending by the Ministry of Education for kindergarten although these are delivered in regulated child care centres.
[4] Subsidies in British Columbia may be used in both regulated and unregulated care. These figures have been estimated using 60% of the subsidy allocation in 1992, 55% in 1995, and 50% in 1998 and 2001.

Table 33a
Allocation in actual dollars for each regulated child care space by province/territory[1] – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 (rounded)

Province/ Territory	1992 $	1995 $	1998 $	2001 $
Newfoundland & Labrador	468	709	772	1,835
Prince Edward Island	671	433	694	1,334[2]
Nova Scotia	1,055	1,113	1,405	1,125
New Brunswick	509	402	600	1,066
Québec[3]	1,795	1,828	1,713	4,651
Ontario	2,887	3,664	2,816	2,608
Manitoba	2,221	2,399	2,205	2,731
Saskatchewan	1,918	1,750	2,210	2,279
Alberta	1,290	1,324	1,154	1,206
British Columbia[4]	1,300	1,650	1,868	2,256
Northwest Territories	2,374	1,328	1,681	1,298
Nunavut	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,001
Yukon Territory	2,390	3,914	3,645	4,086
Canada	**$2,051**	**$2,340**	**$2,029**	**$3,185**

Table 33b
Allocation in actual and constant 2001 dollars for each regulated child care space, Canada – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001

	1992		1995		1998		2001
	Actual $	Adjusted to 2001 $	Actual $	Adjusted to 2001 $	Actual $	Adjusted to 2001 $	Actual $
Can	2,051	2,387	2,340	2,614	2,029	2,175	3,185[5]

Adjusted values based on Consumer Price Index, All-Items, Annual Averages (Index, 1992=100).

[1] Figures based on total provincial allocations and total number of child care spaces. Figures are not adjusted for inflation.
[2] 2001 figures for PEI did not include part-day kindergarten expenditure or spaces for the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions. Therefore, PEI's 2001 figures are not comparable to its earlier figures.
[3] Québec figures includes expenditure on school-age care from the Ministry of Education.
[4] British Columbia's figures use an estimate for provincial allocation because British Columbia allows subsidies to be used in unregulated care. These figures have been adjusted accordingly.
[5] It should be noted that in 2001, Québec's expenditure accounted for 58% of total Canada-wide spending (see Table 32).

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Table 34a
Allocation in actual dollars on regulated child care for each child in the province aged 0-12 years by province/territory[1] – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 (rounded)

Province/Territory	1992 ($)	1995 ($)	1998 ($)	2001 ($)
Newfoundland and Labrador	15	30	38	101
Prince Edward Island	109	67	107	187
Nova Scotia	71	76	103	91
New Brunswick	28	25	46	105
Québec	122	171	256	980
Ontario	232	282	238	232
Manitoba	202	228	231	338
Saskatchewan	59	66	86	97
Alberta	126	128	102	110
British Columbia[2]	96	158	201	274
Northwest Territories	136[3]	82[3]	n/a	n/a
Nunavut	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Yukon Territory	400[3]	519[3]	n/a	n/a
Canada	**$154**	**$197**	**$207**	**$386**

Table 34b
Allocation in actual and constant 2001 dollars for each child in the province aged 0-12 years, Canada – 1992,1995,1998, 2001

	1992		1995		1998		2001
	Actual $	Adjusted to 2001 $	Actual $	Adjusted to 2001 $	Actual $	Adjusted to 2001 $	Actual $
Can	154	179	197	220	207	222	386[4]

Adjusted values based on Consumer Price Index, All-Items, Annual Averages (Index, 1992=100).

[1] Estimates based on total provincial allocations and total number of children 0-12 years. Figures are not adjusted for inflation.
[2] Figures for British Columbia for fee subsidies are estimated because British Columbia allows subsidies to be used in both regulated and unregulated care. These figures have been adjusted accordingly.
[3] Figures for the the Northwest Territories and the Yukon are based on estimated numbers of children 0-12 years of age, and therefore are not directly comparable to the figures given for other provinces.
[4] It should be noted that in 2001, Québec's expenditure accounted for 58% of total Canada-wide spending (see Table 32).

Table 35
Number and percent of children in regulated child care receiving subsidies by province/territory – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001

Province/Territory	Number of children in regulated child care receiving subsidies				Percent of children in regulated child care receiving subsidies			
	1992	1995	1998	2001	1992	1995	1998	2001
Newfoundland & Labrador	891	748	800	1,015	25	18	19	24
Prince Edward Island	391[1]	382[1]	738[1]	1,072[1]	9[1]	10[1]	20[1]	34[1]
Nova Scotia	2,022	2,200	2,225	2,655	19	21	20	23
New Brunswick	782	1,363	1,568	2,545	11	17	17	23
Québec	41,423	41,520	38,070[2]	—[2]	53	37	22[2]	—[2]
Ontario	(est) 50,000	n/a[3]	(est) 73,400	n/a[3]	34	n/a	44[3]	44[3]
Manitoba	9,813	8,200[4]	8,957	10,964	52	44	44	48
Saskatchewan	3,662	3,683[4]	3,634	3,684	57	51	51	51
Alberta	11,598	13,159	11,400	10,490	22	26	24	22
British Columbia[5]	(est) 14,000	(est) 16,000	(est) 17,000	(est) 18,500	34	27	25	25
Northwest Territories	150	131	n/a	n/a	16	10	n/a	n/a
Nunavut	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Yukon Territory	561	680	889	790	55	64	68	59
Canada	**135,293**	**138,006[3]**	**158,691**	**127,715[3,6]**	**36%**	**32%**	**31%**	**36%[6]**

[1] Number and percent of children subsidized in Prince Edward Island was calculated differently in 1992 and 1995, and therefore, are not comparable from year to year. Calculation was amended again in 2001 (2001 calculations did not include part-day publicly-funded kindergarten spaces). Therefore, 2001 is not comparable to earlier years for PEI.

[2] Québec began phasing out subsidies in 1997 as publicly-funded services were introduced. By 2001, Québec was no longer providing subsidies to selected families.

[3] Data for Ontario for 1995 and 2001 were not available. Using estimates provided by provincial officials, an estimate of 50,000 was added to the Canada total in 1995 and an estimate of 76,000 was added to the Canada total in 2001. Percents are estimated.

[4] 1994 data used.

[5] Subsidies may be used in both regulated and unregulated care in British Columbia. These figures are estimates of children in regulated child care receiving subsidies based on advice by provincial officlas..

[6] Calculation did not include child care spaces in Québec and part-day kindergarten in PEI. Both are publicly-funded and do not rely on subsidies to selected families.

Table 36
Net income eligibility levels for full child care subsidy for one parent, one child family[1] by province/territory – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001

Province/ Territory	1992		1995		1998		2001
	Actual ($)	Adjusted to constant 2001 $ [2]	Actual ($)	Adjusted to constant 2001 $ [2]	Actual ($)	Adjusted to constant $ [2]	Actual ($)
NF	9,960	11,404	9,960	10,924	9,960	10,520	14,160
PEI	10,080	11,552	10,080	11,183	13,440	14,530	13,440
NS	16,500	19,190	16,812	18,837	16,812	18,021	16,812
NB	11,664	13,379	15,000	16,639	15,000	16,005	15,000
QC	12,000	13,584	12,000	13,344	12,000	12,767	n/a[3]
ON[4]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MB	13,787	16,710	13,787	15,631	13,787	14,787	13,787
SK	gross 19,688	23,685	gross 19,668	22,133	gross 19,688	21,185	gross 19,668
AB	18,710	22,471	18,710	21,401	20,520	22,262	20,520
BC	18,756	21,607	18,984	20,268	18,984	19,881	18,984[5]
NT[6]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NU[6]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
YT	17,772	n/a	17,772	n/a	17,772	n/a	20,424

[1] This table provides information for one family type; see each province for further information.
[2] Adjusted values based on Consumer Price Index, All-Items, Annual Averages (Index, 1992=100).
[3] Québec now provides publicly-funded services rather than providing subsidies to selected families.
[4] In Ontario, municipalities determine eligibility level using a provincial needs test, in which income is only one factor.
[5] Effective April 2002, several changes were made to British Columbia's subsidy program. See RECENT DEVELOPMENTS for details.
[6] In the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, a needs test is used in which income is only one factor.

Table 37
Mean gross hourly wage in actual dollars for centre-based child care staff – 1991, 1998[1]

Province/ Territory	Assistant teacher ($)		Teacher ($)		Teacher–director ($)		Administrative–director ($)	
	1991	1998	1991	1998	1991	1998	1991	1998
Newfoundland & Labrador	5.57	6.37	6.03	6.76	7.62	7.89	11.82	12.07
Prince Edward Island	7.29	8.18	7.25	7.54	9.47	11.84	10.00	14.37
Nova Scotia	6.22	7.04	7.64	8.51	9.87	10.21	14.08	14.58
New Brunswick	6.03	6.34	6.19	7.12	7.78	9.26	10.80	10.06
Québec	8.69	8.12	10.25	11.04	11.55	14.05	13.15	17.41
Ontario	8.84	10.60	11.51	13.48	14.56	17.48	18.84	22.00
Manitoba	8.60	8.37	9.29	9.49	13.35	13.83	15.06	17.34
Saskatchewan	6.59	8.45	7.52	10.74	11.35	11.74	13.39	14.58
Alberta	6.23	7.90	6.76	8.36	10.00	9.90	11.64	12.73
British Columbia	7.85	10.55	8.94	12.07	11.48	14.41	14.29	18.73
Northwest Territories	9.68	12.07	11.34	13.40	14.36	19.32	20.49	n/a[2]
Yukon Territory	8.44	9.97	9.58	11.71	n/a[2]	n/a[2]	n/a[2]	n/a[2]
Canada	**$8.29**	**$9.59**	**$9.71**	**$11.62**	**$12.42**	**$14.52**	**$15.87**	**$18.45**

[1] Source: *You Bet I Care!* (See FURTHER READINGS for complete reference.) These figures are the most recent comparable figures available. Some provinces have reported more current data; these have been included in the individual provincial sections. Data may not be comparable across jurisdictions.
[2] Sample sizes too small to report.

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)
National Library of Education (NLE)
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)

NOTICE

Reproduction Basis

X	This document is covered by a signed "Reproduction Release (Blanket)" form (on file within the ERIC system), encompassing all or classes of documents from its source organization and, therefore, does not require a "Specific Document" Release form.
	This document is Federally-funded, or carries its own permission to reproduce, or is otherwise in the public domain and, therefore, may be reproduced by ERIC without a signed Reproduction Release form (either "Specific Document" or "Blanket").

P20310TB